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Katherine LeButt
Bertha L. Miller
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Barry Thompson
University of New Brunswick Archives
Ruth Vallillee
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ISBN 0-9698720-0-3



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A HISTORY OF THE FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



New Brunswick



New Brunswick

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Contents

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Book design by Goose Lane Editions, Fredericton.

Cover photographs by Barry Thompson. Interior photographs courtesy of Rob Blanchard, Ian Brown, the Clark Family, *Daily Gleaner*, the City of Fredericton, Harvey Studios, Barry Thompson and Robert Wilson.

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Canadian Cataloguing in Publication Data

Main Entry under title:

A History of the Fredericton Library

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 0-9698720-0-3

1. Fredericton Public Library - History. 2. Public libraries - New Brunswick - Fredericton - History. I. Fredericton Public Library Board.

Z736.F73H57 1994 027.4715'515 C94-950197-2

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Engrossed student at the Fredericton Public Library. B. THOMPSON

Acknowledgements

THE FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD is grateful to the following people and organizations for their assistance with this history of the Fredericton Public Library.

Rob Blanchard	Rebecca Leaman
Ian Brown	Katherine LeButt
The Clark Family	Bertha L. Miller
Mardi Cockburn	Bill Molesworth
<i>Daily Gleaner</i>	Tim Richardson
The City of Fredericton	Lynne Swanick
B.J. Grant	Barry Thompson
Harvey Studios	University of New
Bonnie Horncastle	Brunswick Archives
Wayne Knorr	Ruth Vallillec
Donna Lavigne	Robert Wilson

PART I

ON 6 JANUARY 1955, THE DOORS of the Fredericton Public Library (FPL) were first opened to the public. It is ironic that, as the capital city of the Province of New Brunswick, Fredericton was among the last of the larger centres in the province to acquire a public library. Despite its late arrival, however, the FPL has since been enthusiastically used by Fredericton's citizens for both education and pleasure. The growth of the book collection, the expanding range of offered services, and the increasing demands of the public have necessitated frequent moves over the years in search of adequate facilities. Currently, the FPL boasts one of the highest rates of use per capita in Canada, and is part of an integrated regional library system that serves a wide surrounding area. The present building, situated at the end of Carleton Street, enjoys a magnificent view of the St. John River, and houses an astonishing array of technical services and equipment — everything from computer-aided search systems to a music library of over 14,000 items. Contrast this happy state of affairs with a collection of 2,000 books organized by a single librarian,

in the first floor of a donated building, and one has a fair idea of how far the Fredericton Public Library has come since its founding.

Fredericton, as the traditional seat of government and higher education, has historically been a city well endowed with books. The private library of Jonathan Odell, Provincial Secretary from 1784 to 1812, was one of the first catalogued book collections in New Brunswick. Social libraries were an important feature of 19th-century life in the Atlantic provinces, and a proprietary library was known to exist in Fredericton from 1816 to 1837.¹ Parts of the collection of this early library were acquired at auction in 1859 by the Legislative Library, where they can still be found. Throughout the province, libraries were successfully founded by Mechanic's Institutes and Temperance Societies as a means of educating their members and cultivating civilized mores in rowdy port towns.

In view of this early tradition of libraries, and the enthusiastic response to the FPL once it was established, fears that a library would be "a white elephant . . . used only by a few stragglers" seem inconceivable. The establishment of a public library in Fredericton was, however, delayed by a number of interrelated factors. The first of these was the existence in the city of a variety of specialized libraries — the Church Library at St. Dunstan's, the University Library at the University of New Brunswick, and the Legislative Library, which not only housed the reference library for members of the Legislature, but was also open to the public as a subscription library. All of the collections served different groups, and although most of them included a variety of popular and light fiction, no

central repository was available to the public. The confusion was such that, when the Commissioners for Printing and Publishing State Papers wanted to give free copies of their publications to the citizens of Fredericton, they addressed them to the "Public Library, Frederick's Town . . . in the confidence that the greatest facility of access will be given to such of the public as may be desirous of consulting the work." As Linda Hansen notes in her history of the Harriet Irving Library at the University of New Brunswick, "since the closest thing Fredericton had to a Public Library at this time was the collection of books housed at the college, the lieutenant-governor ordered them placed there." The title pages of books extant from this collection demand that "THIS BOOK IS TO BE PERPETUALLY PRESERVED IN SOME PUBLIC LIBRARY IN FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK."³

In 1930, when the population of Fredericton was 9,000, only 65 people were members of the Legislative Library, which was assumed to be a substitute for a municipal library. "From an early date limited use of the Legislative Library had been offered to university professors, clergymen, and officers in the Department of Education. In 1860 the Joint Committee of the Library extended the offer to any person, properly introduced, living in Fredericton or within five miles of the city, on annual payment of twenty shillings, reduced in 1862 to ten shillings."⁴ Repeated attempts were made by the librarians of the Legislative Library to expand the limited subscription service to better serve the needs of the town. In 1933 Margaret Evans, the first professional librarian hired by the Legislative Library, sought to develop a

good reference and public library based on the model of the Saint John Free Public Library. After a change of staff occasioned by a change in government in 1935, Doreen Harper ambitiously (and foresightedly) proposed to make the Legislative Library "a truly Provincial Library . . . with facilities for sending travelling libraries and bookmobiles into every nook and corner of New Brunswick."⁵ She submitted a programme for expansion of library services to the Post-War Committee in 1943, noting that "New Brunswick has so few Public, University, School and Special Libraries that the Committee urges the development of improved and expanded library facilities as a basic part of the educational program."⁶ The plan was opposed by Dr. C.H. Blakeny, chairman of the Library Committee, who argued that an expansion of services would limit the ability of the existing library to serve the needs of the government. His argument for a clear definition of limited library services was unanimously carried, and Doreen Harper resigned as legislative librarian in 1944. As Violet Coughlin asserts, "this service to the public, which was supported mainly by provincial funds, tended to confuse the original function of the library. Its value to the legislature suffered and it encouraged the city of Fredericton to neglect its responsibility."⁷

Another important obstacle to the development of a public library was the lack of coherent legislation regarding the establishment and funding of libraries in the Province of New Brunswick. One of the earliest educational commissions (1858), lamenting the level of illiteracy in New Brunswick, specifically prescribed public libraries as "that essential accompaniment of good schools."⁸ Members of

the commission of five included Egerton Ryerson of Upper Canada and William Dawson of Nova Scotia. The revisions of the Education Act of 1858 allowed a provincial grant of half the amount raised locally for libraries, and clearly placed responsibility for the development of collections in the hands of the Chief Superintendent and the school trustees. The idea of making school district libraries the base of a regional system of public libraries was discussed quite seriously, but funding was left to the municipalities, who were hard pressed at that time to raise sufficient funds to run their schools.

New Brunswick's next attempt to develop library legislation came at the behest of Sir Charles G.D. Roberts in 1928. As President of the Canadian Authors Association, he exhorted the New Brunswick branch to look for ways of improving library service in their province. A three-member committee, headed by Saint John Mayor H.G. Christie, studied methods of developing library services, and the recommendations of this committee became the basis of the first Public Libraries Act in New Brunswick.⁹ The plan drawn up by this commission was remarkable in its foresight. A seven-zone regional system with centralized ordering and cataloguing was visualized, and would have been the first such system in Canada. Coughlin notes:

To cover expenses for a year, the Commission asked for \$17,119 to pay salaries and cover the purchase of a bookmobile, an initial collection of 5,000 books and other expenses. Unfortunately the depression of the 1930s had set in and the New Brunswick government found itself unable to spare the funds

for the library project. The Commission received only enough money to close out its office. The total sum amounted to \$1,731. Without a Library Commission no public library service could operate. Because the Commission had been unable to launch a publicity campaign, few citizens knew of the proposed plan and there is no record of any protest about the failure to initiate it.¹⁰

While pressure to establish a library in Fredericton had come thus far from professional associations such as the Canadian Authors Association and the Maritime Library Association, a groundswell of local support began to build during the 1940s and 1950s. This support was organized through the local Council of Women, and related social service groups such as the I.O.D.E. In 1946, the Fredericton Women's Club "formed a local chapter of the National Council of Women and chose as a major project the establishment of a tax-supported Public Library for Fredericton and a Regional Library system for York County."¹¹ Aida Flemming, wife of Premier Hugh John Flemming, played a prominent role in creating support for the library movement among the members of the Fredericton Council of Women, a group which wielded a great deal of influence in the provincial capital.

Marjorie Thompson, as both the chair of the Fredericton Council of Women and the librarian of the University of New Brunswick Library, called for a library committee to be formed in association with the New Brunswick Library Association in 1949, which would vigorously pursue the establishment of a municipal library in Fredericton. The leadership provided by this group of professional libra-

rians proved indispensable in the fight to establish a public library. In 1951, Maurice Boone, legislative librarian and elected president of the Library Committee, moved to remove books being used by the general public from the Legislative Library to become the foundation of a collection for a regional system. "Removal of these books would enable the Legislative Library to concentrate on its primary task of serving the legislature, and the need for a tax-supported library in Fredericton would be pointed up."¹²

As luck would have it, a building had been donated to the City of Fredericton by the late Hon. W.G. Clark, former lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick. According to the terms of his will, \$60,000 was to be used to purchase a building, which would be used to house the York-Sunbury Historical Society (of which he was a member and a staunch supporter), and a "reading room." The Lemont Building, at the corner of Campbell Street and Regent Street, was available at a reasonable cost, and was well-suited to conversion into a public space. Built in 1885, the spacious, late-Victorian structure had been used as both a private home and a furniture business, and was one of the first buildings in Fredericton to have a passenger elevator. Renamed the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building, in honour of a son who had died as a result of wounds received in the First World War, the building was purchased for \$30,000.

W.G. Clark's original proposal (1937) was for a central building which would house a museum, the York-Sunbury Historical Society, and a reading room for young men, in all likelihood filled with scientific journals and recent periodicals. Plans were disrupted by the Second



W.G. Clark, 1865 - 1948

Courtesy of the Clark Family



Alden Clark, 1903 - 1994

Courtesy of the Clark Family

World War, and his post-war proposal was altered to provide space to both commemorate and provide services for returning veterans. Thus the Victorian Order of Nurses, the Fredericton Art Club, and other associations were added to the list of proposed tenants.

Members of the Fredericton public, including Alden Clark, son of W.G. Clark, interpreted "reading room" to mean space for a public library. Members of the York-Sunbury Historical Society saw the matter rather differently, and demanded the first floor of the building as museum space for their growing collection. After a series of nasty letters were exchanged in the pages of the *Daily Gleaner*,¹³ Alden Clark defended the decision of the city to use the provisions of his father's will to provide space for a public library at some length, explaining that libraries were "right" for cities.¹⁴ The committee process dragged on,

however, as the various groups intended to occupy the building vied for space.

The Library Committee, meanwhile, had been meeting with Fredericton City Council, pressing for municipal funding. At the provincial level, the previous Public Libraries Act of 1929 had been replaced by another, the Public Libraries Act of 1952. The 1952 Act was essentially identical to the 1929 Act, and contained many of the same limitations. The Grossman Report of 1953 recommended substantial revisions to this legislation, including the allocation of provincial funds for the considerable start-up costs of regional libraries. The establishment of a public library in Fredericton was specifically mentioned in the Report, and Robert Rogers, as secretary of the Library Association, seized the opportunity to present a brief to Fredericton City Council on 10 February 1953,¹⁵ again requesting municipal funds for the establishment of a public library.

Although Mayor H.S. Wright promised that funds would be made available, no further action was taken. Members of the Library Association and the Fredericton Council of Women responded with a petition calling for the "immediate establishment of a Public Library in the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building."¹⁶ This, together with a letter of support from Aida Flemming, finally convinced the City Council to fund the local library out of municipal tax funds. Funding initially allowed \$10,000 for salaries and books, with a further \$5,000 allowed for the maintenance of the building. An offer of volunteer help from the local Council of Women was accepted by the Council, and planning began in earnest. In 1954, as a result of the

recommendations in the Grossman Report, the government appointed James MacEacheron director of libraries. MacEacheron had worked with regional library systems in Cape Breton and would therefore, it was thought, understand the needs of the people of the Maritimes.¹⁷

A nine-member library board was appointed by City Council, with Marjorie Thompson as chairwoman, and Alden Clark and Aida Flemming sitting on the board. While they must have felt a tremendous sense of accomplishment — their fight to establish a library in Fredericton was over a decade long — in a way, the real work had just begun. The Board in turn appointed Hope Jarvis as the first librarian.

A native of Fredericton, Hope Jarvis had completed a baccalaureate degree at the University of New Brunswick, and a degree in Library Science at the University of Toronto. She had also worked as an assistant at the Legislative Library in 1939, leaving that post to work at the renowned Saint John Free Public Library in 1940.¹⁸ When she accepted the offer of the Fredericton Library board, Miss Jarvis was working as the chief librarian in Galt, Ontario. Her comment to an Ontario newspaper was that she “was looking forward to going home.”¹⁹ Her skills at collection building and frugal organization were sorely needed by the fledgling library, described somewhat aptly in the 1955 annual report as a “premature infant.”²⁰

Setting up in makeshift quarters at the University of New Brunswick, Hope Jarvis began the huge task of purchasing and cataloguing an initial collection for the new library. Renovations to the main floor of the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building proceeded, and the



Hope Jarvis, first librarian appointed to the Fredericton Public Library. 1954 - 1966
HARVEY STUDIOS



Aida Flemming, wife of Premier Hugh John Flemming.
DAILY GLEANER

announced opening of the FPL took place on 6 January 1955. The collection of books did not even begin to approach the recommended population-to-book ratio of 1:2.5, and circulation was limited to children for the first six months of the library's existence.

A major book drive was launched, and the citizens of Fredericton responded with donations from their private collections. £100 worth of books arrived from the British Council, and loans of books from Central Library Services (CLS) filled out the initially “miniature collection”²¹ of adult books. Volunteers diligently shelocked the covers of incoming books, and painted the catalogue numbers on by hand in white lettering. Soon the collection had expanded from 2,000 volumes to almost 5,000.

The Board decided not to charge membership fees, arguing that these sorts of charges "often have kept the services of a library from the people who need it most."²² Response from the public was overwhelmingly positive, and the library's collection of children's picture books was in constant demand. In the children's department, natural history, fairy tales, and biographies were popular reading materials, and adults made good use of books on travel and history, with the collection of detective fiction (especially Agatha Christie) enjoying constant use. Hope Jarvis maintained that the emphasis of a public library should be on popular works, rather than reference manuals, and communication with both the University and Legislative Libraries ensured that they would not be duplicating one another's services. The University and Legislative Libraries in turn ceased ordering works of popular fiction, and accepted reference referrals from the FPL staff.

Miss Jarvis did note, however, that "there are some reference books we must buy in 1956, so that we can stand on our own for normal reference work."²³ Interlibrary loans were also used to obtain specialized material. Implementing a regional system of central cataloguing was again suggested as a method of ensuring little or no duplication of services, but this met with opposition from the county council, who would be required to allocate tax revenues to the project. An amendment to the 1952 Public Libraries Act had, in fact been passed by the legislature, again at the behest of Aida Flemming. New legislation in April 1954 allowed \$10,000 of provincial funds for new books, and matching grants if county councils would commit a minimum of 30 cent per capita

out of tax revenues toward the establishment of a regional library. The problem, for York County, was that the county council saw no public demand for such a system, and felt that they could not spare the funds.²⁴

With demand outstripping supply by a wide margin, the need to expand the collection was accompanied by needs for more shelving, a workroom, and more staff members. A part-time assistant was hired so that the existing staff could take holidays, but the need for more space was particularly acute. The Canadian Federation of University Women volunteered a total of 581 hours in this first year, and the service clubs of Fredericton continued to support the library quite generously with their time. Circulation, despite being limited to the children's department for the greater part of the year, exceeded 24,000 in 1955, and it was clear that a public library had been sorely needed in Fredericton for some time. Hope Jarvis — struggling with the task of reflecting the impact of the library in mere figures citing collection growth and lending rates — noted in her first annual report that:

Statistics cannot show the enjoyment of the children when they found the new library that had all the children's books to be found in the Legislative Library and more; . . . Nor can statistics *ever* give an idea of the actual value of a Public Library to a city.

It is startling to open a brand new library and realize, from the reactions of the borrowers, how much more this library was needed than I had believed I think my biggest surprise was the realization that, through the years, many students of Teachers' College had not had the opportunity

to see such a collection of children's books of special subjects, nor a library in which they could work on Saturday.²⁵

In 1956, one man announced to another "my wife has just loved me since I found this place." Miss Jarvis noted that it was hard to resist asking which of them read the books!²⁶ The population to book ratio was reaching 1:1, whereas in the first year of operation, there had not even been half a book for every person in Fredericton. The need for more non-fiction works was noted in the children's section, as more teachers were sending their students to the library for research. The beginnings of a high school collection were ordered, and Hope Jarvis notes being "very disgusted" when something went awry with the desperately-needed order. Circulation rose to 38,091; an average of 600 books per day. Some of the volumes were already so well used that replacements were needed for parts of the collection. Volunteers spent many hours processing the books as they were signed out and returned, all without any sort of electronic aid. Hope Jarvis, ever watchful of the state of affairs at the library, once noted that pencils seemed to be disappearing, despite all attempts to keep track of them. After a week of searching, Miss Jarvis realized that her winter coat was getting rather heavy, and discovered, somewhat to her chagrin, a veritable gold-mine of pencils that had fallen through a hole in the pocket into the lining.²⁷ For their part, the staff was quite relieved that the mystery had been solved.

From the beginning of its existence, the FPL had been actively involved with schools, and had instituted a children's story hour on Saturday mornings that was proving

to be very popular. Volunteers staffed the story hour, and carried boxes of books to classes for special projects. A series of radio book reviews, written by university students, advertised the collection of the library at little expense, and both newspapers began carrying a weekly Library Bulletin as the program of activities at the library expanded. Hope Jarvis regularly addressed the Home and School Association on the importance of books, in the process creating strong local support for the library. Hope Jarvis reported in 1956 that "Adults have achieved 2,706 books, on which to come and go. They are very happy about it and ask where the money comes from. Even when I say 'your taxes' they grin and say it is a good investment."²⁸

In April 1957 the *Daily Gleaner* cheerfully reported that borrowers could now take out three books at a time — a large step forward for the new library. Through new purchases and donations by local associations, the collection had reached over 10,000 volumes by 1958.²⁹ Local companies donated clocks, curtains, and furniture, but need still outpaced supply. The staff now numbered three: Hope Jarvis as librarian, a full-time clerical member, and a part-time assistant. Regional librarian Katherine LeButt recalls that keeping part-time assistants was very difficult, and the staff relied heavily on volunteer labour to fill the gaps. One young lady came from Newfoundland to be a part-time assistant at \$90 per month, and when the board had to turn down her request for a raise, she resigned, stating that living in Fredericton was too expensive for the small amount that the job paid.³⁰ Canadian Library Association (CLA) standards called for a staff of

seven for a library of that size, and again a recommendation to add a regional arm to the library was strongly advised.³¹

Although there appeared to be little rural interest in the establishment of a regional library system for York County, the City Council and members of the Library Board felt that this very lack of interest indicated a desperate need for library services. The rapid increase in use of the FPL required the injection of new funds to expand both the facilities and collection available to the municipal library. These funds were available under the recent amendments to the Public Libraries Act, but County Council would have to approve a 30 cents per capita allocation out of tax revenues to qualify for the provincial funding.

Perhaps taking a lesson from the failure of the Library Services Act of the 1930s, in which a regional system had failed to be implemented because of a lack of publicity, the Library Committee of the Fredericton Council of Women designed a public-relations campaign to "arouse public interest and secure county and city council support."³² Part of the campaign involved a bookmobile borrowed from the Annapolis Valley, which toured the county, visiting all the schools in the area. This device evidently made a great impression on the children. After a hard-fought campaign, in which Fredericton's City Council voted to fund their share of the scheme, York's county council still refused to part with the necessary funds, arguing that the plan was only going to benefit a small number of people in the city, and that the majority of rural rate-payers did not support it.



Fredericton Bookmobile. DAILY GLEANER

The Fredericton Council of Women then approached the recently formed Canada Council for funding, arguing that the proposed regional library would act as a pilot project for the rest of the province. The group pointed to low literacy rates in the province as indicating the need for library services in the province. In 1958, New Brunswick lagged behind even Prince Edward Island in library services.³³ The arguments were effective, and served to unleash a trickle of federal funds for the project. Warning that this grant was unique, and not guaranteed for any specific length of time, the Canada Council granted \$7,800 in 1958 to start a regional system in York County. In turn, the provincial government agreed to match local contributions up to 50 cents per capita, and provided \$10,000 towards the initial purchase of books for the headquarters library and a salaried Regional Library supervisor. The funds thus allocated were administered

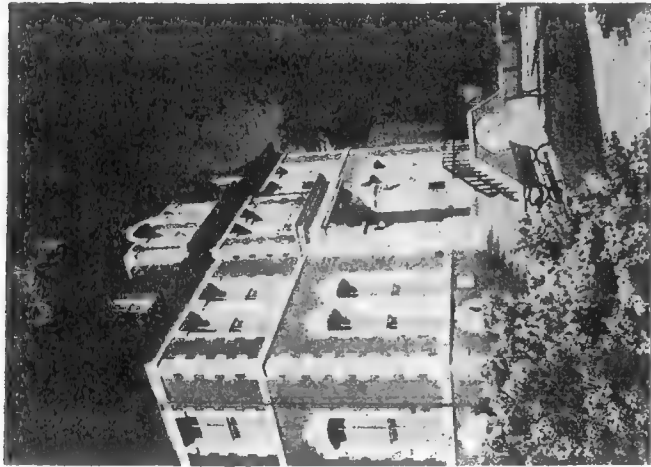
through the Minister of Education, and created a much larger pool of books and services for the Public Library to draw upon.³⁴

Disaster struck, not once, but twice, during 1958. In the spring of the year, the rapid rise of the St. John River flooded the basement storeroom. Despite the best efforts of a team of volunteers, who removed many boxes of books from the lower shelves, several hundred books were lost. After the water receded, volunteers dried out books, pressing them on shelves near the furnace, and brought in borrowed fans and heaters to dry out the storeroom. In November of the same year, spontaneous combustion produced a fire in the basement around noon. The newspaper accounts were thrillingly dramatic: "Fire Chief Doherty, knowing the risk of an old building, broke open a basement window and dived in head first over the still topply [sic] shelving . . . and applied his hose with great success."³⁵ Although relatively few books were destroyed, the fire did cause considerable smoke damage to the building. The cramped quarters and limited possibilities of expansion caused the Library Board to begin searching for a new location for the library, but it would be two years before more suitable facilities would be found.

PART II

IN 1959 OVERCROWDING AT THE John Thurston Clark Memorial Building, combined with plans to implement a regional library system, forced the provincial government to consider new quarters for the Fredericton Public Library. A trade was worked out whereby the provincial government took over the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building (the former Lemont Building), and vacated the Old Customs House at the corner of Carleton and Queen for the use of both the FPL and the newly created York Regional Library (YRL). Originally built by the federal government in the early 1880s, the imposing stone building's eclectic mix of 19th-century features is in many ways typical of government architecture in the late-Victorian era. The building was originally built as a post office, and only later converted for use as a customs building. A three-storey edifice with a warehouse at the rear, the building seemed admirably suited to house a public library, and was large enough to provide room for expansion over the years.

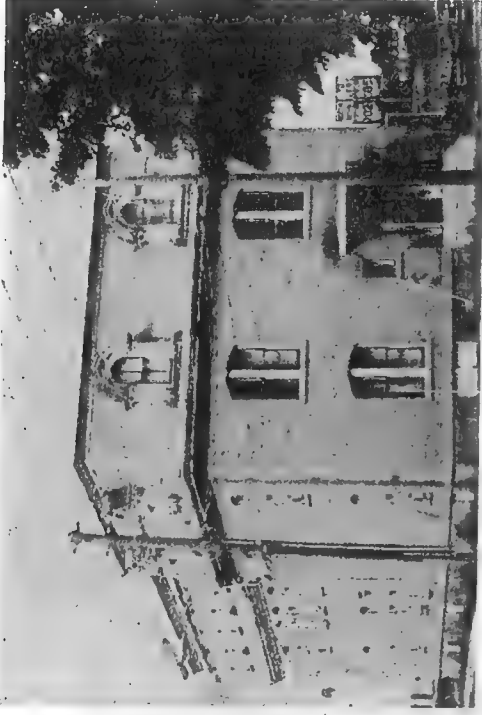
While the move was first announced in February of 1960, the actual move did not take place until September



Lemont Building, corner of Queen and Carleton, also called the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building. CITY OF FREDERICTON

of that year — and all friends and relatives were pressed into service to pack the collection into boxes. The *Daily Gleaner* carried a photo of John Worth, William Jarvis, and Ian Harris spending part of their summer vacation amid stacks of books and packing crates.³⁶ While the catalogue listed 20,000 volumes, there were considerably more books than that number would indicate, and the move took several days to accomplish. A local engineering firm carried out extensive renovations on the main floor of the Old Customs House, adding a mezzanine to create new floor space under the high ceilings. In the process of tearing down walls and constructing new ones, a number of old letters were found — evidently they had slipped between cracks in the floor.

Ms. Jarvis noted in the annual report for 1960 that “the newer site is exceptionally well-located in the centre of the city.”³⁷ Lord Beaverbrook donated a collection of books to mark the occasion, Alden Clark made a major financial contribution towards the renovations, and Bud



Old Customs Building, also called the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building. CITY OF FREDERICTON

Bird, then a young member of City Council, put up private funds to renovate space for a children’s library.³⁸ On 8 September 1960, a public reception was held to welcome Frederictonians to their library’s new home. The Old Customs House was renamed the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building.

The newly created regional library was hard at work buying and cataloguing an initial collection to serve a network of branch libraries. The regional system was intended to solve the inequality of library service, and provide small communities access to the same reading materials that were available in larger centres.³⁹ Almost 86 per cent of the small budget was allocated for the necessary staff positions. One branch library had been established at Oromocto, and another was in the planning stages for Marysville. The bookmobile, driven by Harold



Anne of Green Gables, a painting by Betty Morrison, seen above with library employee Rosslyn Maston, was placed in the Children's Section of the Fredericton Public Library by the Library Board as a tribute to the librarian-artist. Betty Morrison was the first children's librarian from 1958 to 1976. DAILY GLEANER

Smith, circulated books to schools in the rural areas surrounding Fredericton, and continued its role as an ambassador for library service in New Brunswick.⁴⁰ Adult Frederictonians still remember the arrival of the bookmobile at their school as an exciting event. Katherine LeButt was appointed bookmobile librarian in September 1962. The Canada Council grants, initially offered for five years and then reduced to three, gave the new organization badly needed financial assistance. The value of those grants was quickly realized as circulation from the bookmobile expanded from 16,456 in its first year of operation to 53,588 the following year. The expanded quarters of the FPL also allowed it to increase its services by 23 per cent, and total circulation topped 100,000 in 1960.⁴¹

In 1961, the provincial government leased an unused portion of the building, reducing the amount of space the library had hoped to reserve for expansion. New Brunswick Library Service (part of the Department of Education), and other city offices including City Planning, the Building Inspectors office, the Saint John Ambulance Association, and the Civil Defence Organization, all occupied space in the upper floors and the basement. The warehouse at the back of the building was leased to the Department of Public Works for equipment storage.

Circulation rose to 71,855 at the FPL alone, and the bookmobile lent out 60,646 volumes. Katherine LeButt was appointed chief librarian for the YRL in 1963, and took on the task of expanding the range of services offered by the regional library. The FPL's involvement in education continued with class visits to the library.⁴² Canada Council grants ceased in 1963, but the future of the

regional library was assured by the popularity of the bookmobile, and York County Council picked up its share of tax-funded support. By 1964 the collection had reached 60,000 volumes, but this expansion still fell far short of demand. CLA standards at that time required a collection of 130,000 books for a library serving the resident population of Fredericton. Betty Morrison replaced Mrs. Roberta Wilson Weiner as the children's librarian, and continued the tradition of Saturday story hours that had begun with the first year of library service.

Efforts to encourage students to use the collection at the FPL had succeeded beyond the library's wildest dreams. Katherine LeButt noted in the combined annual report of the YRL and FPL that:

With student assignments putting more and more emphasis on independent use of reference books, there is a danger that instead of a library open to all we are becoming a study hall At noon, after school and holidays the library is hard pressed to find sufficient books and staff to satisfy the demand. Adults do not like to share a table at which teenagers are spread out. Much as we welcome these youngsters, they must not be allowed to displace others.⁴³

Some redistribution of the space allocated to children, adults and teenagers was sorely needed to make an excursion to the library an enjoyable experience for all groups. In 1966, a new children's library was constructed in the basement with the help of the Kiwanis Club. Since the basement had housed the Civil Defense organization, the floor boasted a separate entrance, allowing children to

visit the library without disturbing adult patrons. Murals were donated by the Fredericton Society of Artists to brighten up the area, and the mezzanine area was converted for use as a young adult section. This neatly solved the problem of the library becoming a study hall, overrun with teenagers.

Despite these new facilities, the Board reported an ongoing shortage of space to accommodate rising demand. Accordingly, new reference facilities, better lighting and new shelving were added as fast as the funds allowed. A new problem, wilful damage by vandals, was noted in the annual report for 1966. Circulation rose dramatically to 130,248, while the budget rose only slightly to \$71,306.81 for the year. The laborious process of shelving lacking books for use in the library and painting the call numbers on the spine in white lettering was replaced by the use of plastic book covers.

Miss Hope Jarvis resigned as chief librarian in this year, and she moved to Ottawa following her marriage. A reception was held in her honour in September, and she left the library with a well-balanced collection, and the full support of its community. A revolving collection began to be sent to the branch libraries in 1967, and Katherine LeButt was appointed chair of the Canadian Association of Children's Libraries. The per capita collection reached 6.8 in this year — still far short of CLA requirements, but the progress over ten years was impressive. Due to inflation and rising costs, the budget rose to \$88,527.31.

In 1968, under the provisions of Premier Robichaud's Equal Opportunity programme, funding for libraries be-

came the responsibility of the provincial government, much to the relief of the municipal government, which had been experiencing a funding crisis of their own. The City of Fredericton continued to grant money annually for the maintenance of the library buildings, which were still the property of the city, but their responsibilities were much less onerous. Unfortunately, instead of the expected injection of new funds, the library budget was frozen to allow the government time to rationalize its new funding programme.

The greatest fear of the Library Board at that time was that it might have to curtail some of its services, just as demand was reaching an all-time high. The bookmobile was also quite worn out, but the funds were simply not available to replace it. A compromise solution was worked out whereby the body was renovated slightly, and only the chassis replaced. The FPL's annual report noted a more sophisticated and demanding public, and called for new and better reading materials to meet their needs. The Board also reluctantly agreed to a fine increase, hoping it would act as a deterrent to those who might be tempted to add library materials to their own private libraries. In that same year the board structure was re-organized to create independent boards for the FPL and the YRL, allowing more autonomy in funding allocation and staff positions.

By August 1968, the *Daily Gleaner* reported a 40 per cent increase in library circulation over the previous year, despite severe funding and staff restrictions. The reference department fielded questions on everything from prison breaks to auto repair, and the staff at the library continued their involvement with local schools by sup-

plying boxes of books for classroom projects. The efforts of the FPL seem not to have been reflected in the amount of municipal support; they received only \$2,000 of a requested \$3,600 grant from the municipality. Saint John gave \$100,000 to its library that same year. The tone of the annual report was understandably bitter — "Centres around New Brunswick have received new, expanded quarters, but the busiest, the Fredericton Public Library, does not receive enough to keep the properly needed furnishings."⁴⁴ The need for more space, more books and more funds was increasingly acute. The ill-advised decision of the City Council to lease space in the building to other offices now restricted the public library's ability to expand.

By 1969 the library had a staff of seven, and improvements to the building continued. New glass doors created a space for quiet reading in the adult section, and better lighting was added to the young adult section. The reference section continued to field requests for information; two guests of the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel phoned, asking the librarian to solve their dispute over the identity of the leader of the English forces in the Battle of Culloden. Specialized needs began to be addressed by the library; a collection of large-print books was organized for distribution to retirement homes in the Fredericton area, and French language records were added to the collection to serve the growing francophone population of the city. Travelogue slide shows by Mr. Andrew Lohr proved quite popular, and the need for a better collection of French books in the children's department was pointed out.

While the population of Fredericton was growing and changing, their habits also evolved with the times. The annual report for 1969 notes that the construction of the new K-Mart store seemed to be having a negative impact on Saturday circulation. Fines were again raised, and staff happily noted no adverse effect on library circulation. Despite the best efforts of the new shopping malls to draw Frederictonians away to other pursuits, total circulation climbed to 194,104. The collection, again augmented by donations, grew to 79,553 volumes.

In 1970 the library took over the duties of the New Brunswick Library Services Department, which vacated their space in the building. One librarian was assigned to work exclusively with schools to improve school libraries. The FPL entered the age of technology with the purchase of a microfilm reader, and a photocopier was added to the library's equipment in the hope that it would prevent pages being removed from books and periodicals by overzealous researchers. A survey of users and non-users allowed the library to assess public needs; the data indicated an acute need for more books, and a desire for longer hours. The public also expressed a need for more recent fiction, and more variety generally.

The overextension of regional library services coupled with further funding restrictions caused the Library Board to undertake a critical review of the branch libraries in 1970. The view generally held by the Board was that many of the branches (some run by a single librarian) did not provide much service for the amount of money needed to keep them operating. The YRL was forced to consider a retraction of its lending boundaries in order to make

the service cost-effective. Katherine LeButt emphasized the importance of library service in the face of social change: "Our communities are changing and the Library, if it is to justify its claim to tax dollars must meet the changing needs. The level of education rises each year, and with it the leisure for cultural and educational pursuits."⁴⁵

Space problems at the FPL continued despite the removal of the New Brunswick Department of Library Services from the building, and circulation continued to set new records as the public appetite for reading material increased. Older, specialized material that might be damaged by too much handling was removed to the basement stacks. While this collection was not open to the public, it was made available on request. Chief Librarian Mary Morrison reported that "Fredericton is a city that is rich in library resources. In this atmosphere, there is plenty of opportunity still for a Public Library to grow into a cultural focus for the community."⁴⁶ In fact, the heavy use of the library, while frustrating to staff who attempted to keep pace with demand, proved that the library was a vital resource, contributing directly to the cultural life of the community.

Some tension continued to exist however, between the need to serve the popular needs of the reading public and the competing need to house a variety of specialized materials for reference work. An agreement was reached with the University and Legislative Library which made the FPL the central location for all interlibrary loans, allowing it to fulfil its obligation to patrons seeking research materials without having to bite into funds allocated to developing a popular collection.

A new system of monthly ordering was implemented which ensured a constant supply of new books. The method of protecting books from the stress of being read and re-read also underwent another transformation; books were laminated directly, replacing the old plastic covers, which had cracked and darkened over the years.

The French language collection was augmented in an effort to meet the needs of both the francophone population and those interested in learning the language. The building, suffering from both age and use, continued to need repairs and alterations. Fans were installed in the children's department to improve ventilation in the basement. Story hour continued under the direction of staff, aided by student helpers. Young Canada Book Week in November was used to emphasize the importance of books to youngsters, and the newspaper carried reports of reading contests and other activities organized by library staff. In 1970, the relationship between the YRL and the FPL board changed significantly.⁴⁷ As sources of funding moved from the municipality to the province, leaving the municipality to bear only the costs of maintaining the library building, the responsibilities of the FPL Board had become restricted to mundane matters such as replacing shelves and hiring a new janitor.⁴⁸ In 1970, the ruling of the Provincial Library Council removed even this small area of responsibility from the Board, giving the regional library control over spending decisions at all levels. This effectively made the Library Board, composed of individuals who had been involved in library services for years, a rubber-stamp for decisions made by the regional library.

Matters came to a head when proposals for a small branch library in the Frederickton Mall were overturned by the regional board, who preferred to share the Marysville and Barkers Point bookmobile with the growing suburbs of Fredericton rather than open a costly permanent branch. As services at the downtown location were stretched quite thin, and space was sorely needed to revolve parts of the collection, the decision to spread bookmobile services over such a wide geographic area seemed short-sighted and ill-advised. Donald Gammon, chair of the FPL Board, resigned in protest.⁴⁹

By February of 1971, the FPL Board consisted of a number of new faces. Three members of the FPL Board were in turn appointed to represent the FPL on the YRL board. Later that year, at Katherine LeButt's request, Fredericton City Council agreed to place library grants in a bank account opened for that purpose. The FPL had previously submitted all invoices to the City Clerk for payment, and had never had direct access to the funds. The problem of designating signing authority for the new account was solved by a decision to allow the regional librarian to write cheques on the account for library expenses.

The problems of inadequate space and pressure to expand services remained, however, and it became clear that simply expanding the range of the existing bookmobile was not a reasonable solution. The Kinsmen Club, at Mayor Bud Bird's request, took on the project of raising funds for a bookmobile to serve the Fredericton area exclusively. The members of the FPL Board threw themselves into the cause of promoting the new bookmobile

with gusto, and spent considerable time discussing the exterior design of the final vehicle. The annual report noted that "psychedelic colours have been used on bookmobiles in North York and Toronto, and the public liked the effect." More conservative members of the Board thought a design incorporating violets and fiddleheads would be more suitable for the Maritimes, as well as easier on the eyes. A new Recordak charging system was purchased out of the city grant to keep track of books being signed out. The days of sharpening pencils and hunting through alphabetical stacks of cards had gone the way of the dinosaur.

On the 4th of October, 1971, an emergency board meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Richard Carr. Fire had broken out in the basement of the downtown library the evening of 3 October, and vandalism was strongly suspected as the cause of the blaze.⁵⁰ Fighting the fire had been difficult, due to modifications made to the basement by the Civil Defense Organization in their efforts to make the space serve as an air-raid shelter. Long boxes of sand had been placed between the rafters, and intensified the heat of the fire. When the rafters caught fire, these boxes began to collapse, blocking the efforts of firemen to extinguish the blaze, and threatening the life of anyone who ventured into the building.

While the walls of the stone structure were impervious to the fire, one of the finest collections of children's books in the Atlantic provinces was destroyed, and a significant portion of the library's adult collection was lost to smoke and water damage. The entire card catalogue was also destroyed, and it would take library staff until

1988 to remedy the loss. As before, volunteers salvaged what books they could, cleaning, drying and pressing these in donated space in the Clark building at the corner of York and King Streets. Wilmot United Church also offered its gymnasium as space to dry out books until they could be shelved.

The new bookmobile, intended to augment library services to outlying areas of Fredericton, was instead parked, and would be the only library service available to Frederictonians for eight months. The FPL set up temporary quarters by leasing the former Scholten Supermarket on King Street, and offered limited service beginning 9 November 1971. The regional library had to be housed in the Risteen building on Queen Street. Services were quite limited; there was no children's service apart from the bookmobile, and the literature and biography sections were moved to the basement. Because of insufficient ventilation, the public could not be allowed in the basement stacks, and books from these sections had to be requested and fetched by staff members. The reference collection was simply boxed and stored, and the adult French collection received a temporary home at Ecole Ste Anne.

While insurance revenues would cover some of the costs of replacing the library, it would be some time before these funds were available. In the interim, tins were deposited around Fredericton to collect spare change, and the service clubs of the city began a funding drive. The Beaverbrook Foundation donated generously to the project of re-supplying the FPL. Librarian Marjorie Kitchen sent invoices to the city documenting the damage done by the fire, and organized a team of high school

students to type fund-raising letters on stationery donated by Hall's Bookstore. The efforts of the citizens of Fredericton bore fruit in December, with a grant from the city of \$3,200 for the restoration of the library.

A search for a permanent home for the library began, and a multitude of proposals were put forward, examined, and rejected over the next two years. Marathon Realty proposed building an Urban Renewal Complex in the downtown area, if the library would agree to lease space on the second floor. The FPL Board pointed out that the building plans did not include an elevator or a designated loading zone, which were essential if staff members were to deal with the regular shipments of books the library received.

Problems with the King Street location began to surface. There were problems with loading books, security, and ventilation. A staff member had \$175 taken from her purse shortly before Christmas, and the FPL Board recommended that lockers be added to secure staff belongings. There were several doors allowing access to the back rooms of the library, and it was virtually impossible to lock or watch all these doors properly. In January staff noted that ventilation was still required in the basement as "working conditions are very difficult without it."⁵¹ The situation gradually deteriorated throughout 1972.

Despite the addition of Margaret Thompson to the staff, the fact that the building had never been designed to house a library frustrated efforts of the Library to serve the citizens of Fredericton. Problems with building maintenance, garbage disposal, snow removal, and inadequate heating in winter were minor aggravations that added

up to a large headache for staff members. The arrangement with the Ecole Ste Anne to house the adult French collection was also not working out, as they were only able to make parts of the collection available one day a month. The board decided to return the collection to the library and shelve it on a rotating basis despite severe space limitations.⁵²

By September of 1973, the FPL had to decide either to lease the King Street building or to vacate it. The Board, agreeing that the space had never been intended for use as a library, and in fact was ill-suited in many respects, decided to move the collection to the first floor of the York Street School, then owned by the Brunswick Street Baptist Church.

The space in this location was much more suitable for use as a library, and the FPL was able to expand services quite quickly in their first year of occupancy. The bulk of the library's collection, however, continued to be housed in the building occupied by the regional library. In January of 1974, bad luck seemed to follow the library. A window left open on the top floor of the old York Street School resulted in frozen plumbing, burst pipes, and a flood on the second floor. The water inevitably dripped through the floor onto the stacks of books below, and despite the best efforts of staff and volunteers, hundreds of dollars worth of books and equipment were damaged beyond repair.

The need for a permanent structure was obvious, but the growing town of Fredericton had committed itself to a number of large projects, eliminating the necessary funds to buy or build a new home for the library. The

irony that, in 20 years of existence, the public library had never been housed in a building specifically designed for that purpose⁵³ was beginning to make itself apparent, and public pressure to remedy the situation increased. City Council, considering the construction of a new municipal building, proposed turning the old City Hall into a library, but Alden Clark decried the notion as ridiculous — plans for a new city hall were not even in the works, and if the Public Library had to wait for the municipal government to vacate its premises, it would not be able to give adequate service for years.

Studies undertaken by the FPL Board recommended a structure with a minimum space requirement of 26,000 square feet for the public library alone. Regional library offices would add almost 9,000 square feet to the proposed plans. The John Thurston Clark Memorial Building, the Old Customs House still standing at the corner of Queen and Carleton, was offered as a potential site with the proviso that, this time around, the library could have the whole building to itself. A local engineering firm carried out a feasibility study on the structure, and the estimated costs to restore the building for the kind of traffic sustained by the library were much higher than the Board had anticipated. When the Military Compound Board (owners of the building) put forward their proposal to turn the structure into a National Exhibition Centre, using federal funds made available for such a purpose, the idea of returning the library to its old home was quietly shelved. Chief Librarian Michelle Audet sent a notice to all architectural firms in the Atlantic region, calling for “expressions of interest” in the design of a new building

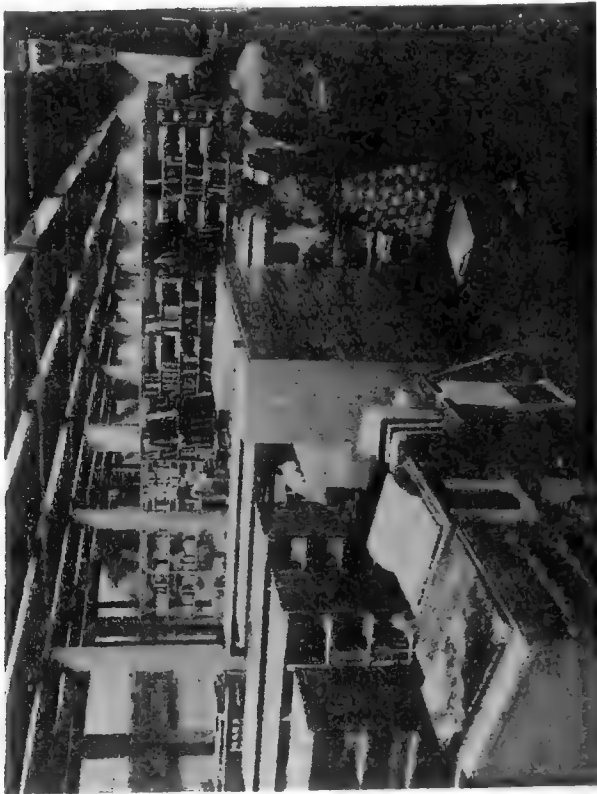
for both City Hall and the FPL, or renovations of additions to the existing buildings.

A compromise solution was eventually brought about by the actions of Mayor Bird, who decided to renovate the existing city hall rather than build a new structure. Plans were solicited for a new library building instead, to be located behind the Old Customs House, on Carleton Street. The building of the Westmorland Street Bridge would turn this busy thoroughfare into a quiet lane, conveniently located in the heart of the downtown. Debate raged over whether the proposed location was too near the river and might be in danger of flooding, and the committee process again ground plans to a stand-still. The *Daily Gleaner* despairingly reported that “the new library continues in the category in which the new hospital and the new highway bridge existed for so long, paralysed by controversy and indecision.”⁵⁴ It would be more than another year before the tangle of tenders, committees and councils provided an adequate home for the library.

Two plans were submitted for a new building, and after City Council reviewed the proposals, the estimated space was reduced to 12,500 square feet, with the regional library occupying an additional 6,000 square feet at the rear of the building. Rising construction costs and



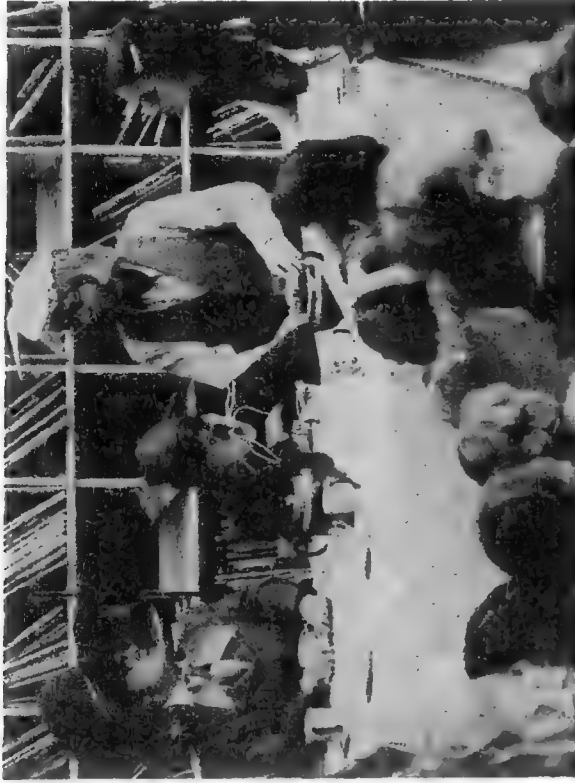
(J.W.) Bud Bird, Mayor of the City of Fredericton from 1969 to 1974. DAILY GLEANER



An interior view of the adult section in the Fredericton Public Library.

DAILY GLEANER

inflation pushed the estimated cost of the structure from \$850,000 to \$978,266. City Council responded by cutting the proposed plan even further in an effort to control costs. The City awarded the construction contract to Diamond Construction of Fredericton in May 1974, and by January of 1975 the physical structure was almost completed. A grand opening was planned for March, but had to be postponed when strikes and delays in receiving construction materials slowed completion. Service to the public actually began on 21 July 1975, with Frederictonians signing out books from a small display in the lobby of the still-unfinished building. The entire first floor was complete and operational by August, and by



A Mad Hatter's Tea Party was held in March 1977 at the Fredericton Public Library by some of the employees. Shown right to left are Diana Moore, Michael Ridley, Eleanor Munro and Mary Morrison Mayo.

DAILY GLEANER

mid-month, the FPL was again offering full service from its new quarters.

The designers of the structure, Graham-Parkin Associates of Halifax, had attempted to make the building blend in with the other, older, structures in the military compound by using a red brick, and keeping the profile of the library quite low. Other elements of the building were quite modern, such as the glass atrium that formed the entrance, and the spiral staircase which soared up through the middle of the building. The use of natural stone and wood in the interior was intended to reflect the abundant natural resources of New Brunswick, and

maritime themes were carried through the building with the use of nets and floats as decorative touches. Response from the public was overwhelming, and the library was soon exceeding even the record circulation of the previous year.

Programs expanded as quickly as the staff could announce them: puppet shows, craft sales, exhibitions by local artists, movies, a noon-hour lecture series, and a rapidly expanding music collection provided hours of entertainment for the Fredericton public. Family night, organized on Friday evenings, pursued topics of interest; gardening, science-fiction movies, and gourmet cooking sessions were attended with enthusiasm. One of the most successful of these evenings was astrology night, when library staff set up telescopes in the library parking lot. Over 130 people turned out to have a look at the stars. Serious research was possible through interlibrary loan, as the library staff had access to both provincial and national catalogues of material that could usually be requested free of charge. The holdings of the library acquired after 1976 were indexed on microfiche, and a microfiche reader was available for public use. The loss of the card catalogue in the 1971 fire, however, meant that holdings acquired before 1976 were not necessarily listed. A music library was created, and banks of headphones allowed visitors to enjoy music without bothering others.

In the fall of 1977 Tim Mark became the City Librarian and one of his first challenges was to deal with a series of security problems that had developed. A group who frequented the music library on weekends made it difficult for regular patrons to use the library without ha-

rasment. The addition of a security guard on weekends discouraged this group from "hanging out" in the music section. Book theft and the destruction of research materials by those wishing to use only sections of large volumes (some creative individuals removed items from bound volumes with the use of a razor blade) were discouraged by the purchase of a magnetic sensor machine called Tattletape in 1980. Prior to the purchase of this security system, library staff recorded an annual loss of \$11,000 worth of library materials. After the installation of Tattletape, however, thefts decreased by 90 per cent.

The year 1983 brought several unpleasant surprises. Hope (Jarvis) Nash, the first chief librarian of the FPL, died in Ottawa in April of 1983. She would be missed by library staff, for she had developed a fondness for the "premature infant" she had coaxed through its growing pains, and had often sent gifts of books to mark occasions in the life of the library.

The lingering recession imposed problems for incoming City Librarian Alison Fitzgerald. A 14 per cent



City Librarian Tim Mark with librarians Greg Blake and Eszter Schwenke.

DAILY GLEANER



Alison Fitzgerald, City Librarian from 1982 to Nov. 1983.

reduction in funding added fiscal difficulties to the constant battle with increasing demand, and lack of space and books.

Despite these problems, the music department was doubled in size by knocking out a wall. It had hoped to meet the constant demand for music by adding more space for listening stations, but found that the removal of the wall created a whole new demand — from people who didn't know the library had a music

department! The children's department screened *Water-ship Down* and *The Muppet Movie*, thrilling young audiences. The adult programme featured weekly film screenings, and performances of live music.

In 1984, Bill Molesworth arrived from the Oromocto Public Library to become the new City Librarian, after Alison Fitzgerald resigned to go on an extended sailing trip. One of Bill Molesworth's first contributions to the FPL was a new six-day rotating schedule, which allowed staff some Saturdays off while extending hours, allowing the library to open four evenings a week. The rising demand for skilled bilingual workers made itself felt in the library as well; the music room noted increased demand for French language instructional tapes, and the waiting period for these was sometimes as long as 16 weeks!

The decision of City Council in 1975 to restrict space

in order to save costs meant that the FPL rapidly outgrew even this new building, and the litany of dissatisfactions with the new space increased with each passing year. Katherine LeButt had noted as early as 1981 that "lack of space continues to be a frustrating problem At the time of building, space was reduced due to spiralling costs. Today we suffer from that decision. Had the original estimates been retained, both the Regional and Fredericton libraries could have remained comfortably together for many years."⁵⁵ The FPL Board hired a team of architectural planners to assess the building in 1986, and specifically asked them to make recommendations on how this existing space could be used more effectively.

The Beckman Re-

port confirmed what library staff had suspected; that the building was not adequate in either space or design, and had been undersized from the very beginning. The report also pointed out difficulties with the original design of the building which wasted much of the available space. Features like the spiral staircase, while visually pleasant, wasted



Bill Molesworth, Fredericton City Librarian and Katherine LeButt, the York Regional Librarian. DAILY GLEANER

several hundred square feet of potential floor space. The location of the children's library, directly beneath the stairs, ensured that the happy sounds of children floated up to disturb adult patrons.

Other relatively minor flaws created difficulties for library staff. The layout on the second floor did not allow library staff a good view of the floor area, limiting security. The glass roof in the children's section, while an impressively modern element from the outside of the building, created a greenhouse effect inside, generating enough heat to shut down key pieces of electronic equipment. The light was also difficult to control, and eliminated the popular film-strip projections in that area of the library. The main doors, also made of glass, opened directly into the library, allowing gusts of frigid air to blow in with every patron during the winter.

Some of these problems were solved fairly easily. Curtains were added to the offending portions of the glass roof, and an external set of doors was added to create a wind baffle. The recommendations of the Beckman Report also called for the addition of seating space, a 100-seat auditorium for film-screenings and lectures, and the creation of smaller spaces for those engaged in research. Where the money or the space for these improvements was to be found, however, the report did not specify. The decision either to expand the existing building or once again to find new quarters for the York Regional Library was being forced upon the Library Board.

Part III

IN THE LATE 1980S, AS THE 1981 recession lingered in the Atlantic region, and cuts to federal transfer payments took the wind out of Maritime provincial governments' sails, libraries faced a series of financial crises. The need for libraries to become their own political boosters had been amply demonstrated by the increasing difficulty of securing adequate funding. At the FPL, innovative responses to the problem of funds were found by hard-pressed departments. The music department introduced a plan to raise funds for their compact disc collection. Music patrons were asked to bring in old records and these were sold to raise money to purchase new compact discs for the library. The compact discs were especially valuable in a library collection because they lasted much longer than phonograph records or magnetic tape cassettes. In the adult fiction department, a programme of "book switching" between libraries allowed popular titles by prolific authors to be rotated, ensuring a constant supply of fresh titles at minimal cost.

The late 1980s also witnessed a national political action taken by libraries. This was not in the interest of finances, but was held to protect something held even dearer by libraries and their patrons. This political activism was provoked by Federal Bill C-54. Libraries across Canada were outraged by the proposed legislation, which would limit public access to information. The FPL presented a "Threatened Material" display and dispatched a petition with 140 signatures to Ottawa.

Provincial funding cuts resulted in a freeze on new book purchases for a six-month period in 1985, causing a rare drop in circulation. In 1986, the FPL Board realized that the operating budget had been overspent by \$7,000. Even though this situation had been brought about by unusually high heating bills and a computer system that was more costly than anticipated, the deficit was an embarrassment to a board that had traditionally returned a surplus to the city. The funding restriction also affected staff, who were expected to cover the shortfall; although circulation had increased by 40 per cent, and the library was open an additional seven hours per week, no new staff positions had been added.⁵⁶ Staffing problems worsened in the summer, when vacations were scheduled. Only the hiring of three students under the federal Challenge grant programme prevented the library from becoming dangerously understaffed.

With dwindling municipal and provincial support, and federal funding available only for specific, limited projects,⁵⁷ the FPL Board began to consider various ways to raise funds and generate public interest in the library. While the Fredericton public was obviously interested in

using the library, most were unaware of the financial crunch faced by the institution. Some Board Members were vehemently opposed to the idea of supplementing government support with private fund-raising, and one noted that "if I were on the Police Commission I would not be expected to buy cruisers!"⁵⁸ In an effort to make government departments aware of the need for expanded rather than reduced funding, the Board presented a formal request to the City Council and the regional board which included all anticipated needs for the coming year.

The Board also set up a Library Development Fund to provide some consistent vision for future development of the library. Previous development had usually occurred only in reaction to some sort of disaster — flood or fire or both — and this had resulted in a patchwork development strategy. Plans even for new buildings had fallen victim to budget cuts, and the failure to plan for future needs had often cost the library dearly.

The FPL's vulnerability to various measures of "restraint" was amply illustrated in 1990, when the entire programme of computerizing the Provincial Library System was derailed; the government declined to fund the second phase of the programme and as a result all the public libraries were left with an inefficient, out-of-date, and incomplete system. As if to add insult to injury, libraries were informed that they would be looking at an overall budget cut for the following year. In Moncton, the public library seriously considered cutting services and hours when they were not granted needed staff positions, and the FPL carefully watched both public and government reactions to this threatened withdrawal of services.

The issue of whether or not the FPL Board should become a fund-raising board was effectively decided by the funding crisis of the late 1980s. With no additional funds forthcoming from municipal or provincial sources, the FPL Board would have to turn to the citizens of Fredericton for direct support. In February of 1989, the FPL sought and received tax-exempt status as a charitable institution. The ability to raise funds created the need to manage any funds that were raised, and it was decided that these would be administered by the librarian in charge of collections.

The goals of this fund-raising activity were carefully spelled out. The primary purpose of any such activity would be to maintain the library's vital link with the community, a sentiment which recalled the early days under Hope Jarvis when private citizens and community businesses donated all manner of things to help the fledgling library survive. This link had ironically become weakened by the previous support of the library out of tax revenues, which created an arms-length relationship between the public and the tax funds collected from them for the library. Any funds raised would enhance rather than replace provincial and municipal funding, and would go to support new programs "so that the institution will continue to respond to the requirements of an increasingly sophisticated and demanding public."⁵⁹

While cash donations were easily administered, the problem of dealing with donations of books required the development of an additional policy. Many individuals donated collections which required extensive repairs, others were too specialized for the use of the general

public, and still others came with strings attached. In this case, the generosity of the public had the potential to become an administrative nightmare. Collections or donations of materials could only be accepted if the donation was unconditional, and if the materials were valuable enough to offset the costs of preparing them for inclusion in the general collection. The funding drive developed quickly under the auspices of the FPL Board. Through the initiative of the Fredericton Public Library Board, a "Friends of the FPL" group was established in 1992 to play both fund-raising and advocacy roles.⁶⁰

On July 27, 1987, Mayor Brad Woodside presented library trustee Bertha Miller with a plaque in recognition of her dedicated service to libraries since 1954 and made her an Honorary Board Member.⁶¹ However, Board Members recognized a continuing need for a higher profile for the efforts of the local library board. Chair Michael Bowlin had strongly stated his belief on several occasions that the Board required an injection of new faces and new ideas. Feeling that the Fredericton public was still largely unaware of their activities, the Board considered publishing excerpts from its monthly meetings in the local paper to generate interest.

The need for the Board to clarify its role in the day-to-



Bertha L. Miller, a force behind establishing a Fredericton Public Library. HARVEY STUDIOS

day operation of the library was brought to a frothing boil by a conflict with the regional board over the issue of whether the library should open on Sunday afternoons. Given the financial constraints of the 1980s and the difficulties of working in too close proximity, a clash between the FPL Board and the YRL was almost inevitable. "Most traumatic during the year was the controversy at the Regional board level as the Frederickton Public Library Board challenged the authority of the York Regional Library Board in the areas of staff responsibility and funding." The annual report tactfully mentioned a "spirited confrontation" over the FPL Board's motion to begin opening on Sunday afternoons.

Opening on Sunday was not a new idea. The library had indeed experimented with Sunday-opening previously, and the practice had met with mixed reviews. Positive results of the experiment were that the public certainly liked the convenience of extended weekend hours, and the afternoon also attracted a different clientele. Drawbacks included stretching the understaffed schedule even thinner, and requiring full-time employees to work on weekends, which many staff felt interfered with their family life. Union regulations requiring higher hourly rates for those required to work on Sunday made the pilot project too expensive for the library's limited budget, and further funding cuts eventually forced a rollback of hours in which the library was open to the public.

In 1986, initial cost estimates for the proposed Sunday-opening came to a sobering \$22,768.70 annually, based on a five-hour opening.⁶² The issue clearly illustrated the limitations placed on the actions of the FPL Board;

while the regional board hired and paid the staff of the FPL, the FPL Board were only in charge of the building. Several options were explored to solve the dilemma; full-time staff could take days off in the middle of the week, the library could seek outside funding for the extra staff needed, or they could hire additional, casual staff to work the unpopular weekend hours. The practice of hiring a second staff of part-time workers for weekends and evenings had been successfully employed by the University Library.⁶³

In an effort to clarify the role of the FPL Board, the Board Members turned to the Libraries Act for guidance, but found the legislation confusingly general in its recommendations. Section 14 of the Libraries Act did state that the FPL Board was directly responsible for library service given to the public. The problem for the FPL Board was that the YRL effectively controlled the level of service that could be given by administering the operating budget.

Under the authority of the legislation, the Board Members drew up a list of operating requirements to submit to the YRL. The requirements included a request for two additional full-time staff and two part-time staff for the main branch, and formally stated Sunday opening as a goal, citing public demand and the attraction of a different clientele. They also noted that the collection needed a minimum of 10 per cent new stock annually to retain the interest of library patrons, and the board wished to have more direct control over the assignment of specific books to the collection. An issue arose when *Web of Deceit* was ordered, and the Regional and Frederickton libraries were

threatened with legal action by national Jewish groups who had condemned the book as hate literature.⁶⁴

These demands met with a disappointing response by Regional Librarian Katherine LeButt. Stung by the implied criticism contained in the demands of the FPL Board, she stated flatly that there were no available funds to purchase 10 per cent of the FPL collection in new materials. In the opinion of the regional board, the goal of the regional system was to equalize services, ensuring that even sparsely populated areas would have access to books, and favouring one library over others would only cause less service for others. She also felt that the YRL was considerably more consultative than other regions, pointing to the presence of representatives of the FPL Board on the regional board.⁶⁵

Plunging ahead with plans to open on Sunday despite all the obstacles presented by the regional board and the opposition of library staff, the Board formally moved to open all day Saturday, Sunday afternoons, and three additional days of the week, possibly Wednesday through Friday. The City Librarian was asked to submit a tentative schedule, and present it at the following board meeting.⁶⁶

The opinion of the Minister of Heritage, Recreation and Tourism (whose office administered libraries) was also sought to clarify the legal interpretation of the Libraries Act regarding the powers of the respective boards. Unfortunately, the request of the FPL Board came at a time when a new Act was being considered, and the provincial government was considering moving libraries to another department such as education or municipal affairs.⁶⁷

By 1988, the estimated cost of opening on Sundays

had risen to almost \$35,000 per year. Three different schedules had been drawn up, none of which satisfied the requirements of both the staff and the Board. The municipality was reluctant to put up the money for an alternate weekend staff, stating that funding for staff was clearly a provincial responsibility. The Board began to look to volunteers as a possible solution. The success of the Beaverbrook Art Gallery's docents programme, which provided extensive training to volunteers in all aspects of the gallery's operation, was examined as a possible model for training library volunteers. This plan ran into opposition from the union, which saw large-scale training of volunteers as infringing on the prerogatives of the paid staff.

After numerous requests to the Minister's office, two representatives were dispatched to advise the FPL Board on possible courses of action they could take to resolve the increasingly acrimonious dispute. The Department was not willing to be put in the middle of the YRL and FPL Boards, stating that local boards were to act in an advisory capacity only, going through the YRL Board when they wished to make requests of the minister. Ms. LeBel of the New Brunswick Library Service also pointed out that the proposed plan to close the FPL two days of the week, to allow for opening on the weekend, would adversely affect other libraries in the regional system, who used the FPL as a central resource. The FPL Board could either resolve the issue with the YRL, or opt out of the regional system.⁶⁸

By this time, the relationship between the YRL and the FPL Board had deteriorated to the point where a resolution of the issue was not possible without an outside

arbitrator, and with the department clearly anxious to avoid involvement, the Sunday-opening issue quietly drifted into bureaucratic limbo, awaiting a new Library Act. In September of 1990 Michael Bowlin, who had been the driving force behind the motion to open on Sunday afternoons, resigned from the FPL Board and Kathy Haché became the acting chair until February 1991. Lynne Swanick became Chair in March 1991. The final word on the subject was a letter that was sent to the YRL on the subject of the role of local boards, and asked the YRL to clarify the Libraries Act's provisions for the FPL. The FPL board formally sought a greater role in serving the community, and asked to be consulted in staff appointments, the review and assessment of staff, and the hours the library would be open to the public.⁶⁹

During the time the dispute between the FPL and YRL Boards was raging, the FPL Board was occupied with other, more pressing concerns. The 1986 Beckman Report had outlined the shortcomings of the new library building, chief among them being the lack of "growing room," and by early 1987 the library was literally bursting at the seams. Bill Molesworth's tersely worded entry in the annual report conveys some of the frustration at constantly working with insufficient space or resources: "In yet another stop-gap effort to keep the books under some sort of control, the Library installed another six bays of shelving against the last blank walls in the building. This time, for sure, the place is full."⁷⁰ In the children's department, the visit of Miss Fran from Romper Room and Paddington Bear attracted 122 children, which "taxed our small program space almost beyond its limits."⁷¹

Under pressure from both the public and Board Members, Frederickton City Council agreed to fund the requested 21,000 square foot addition, to be added on to the rear of the building. The new space would hopefully provide ample room for storage of the collection, a separate area for the offices of the regional library, workrooms to catalogue and repair the collection, and public space in the form of special meeting rooms. The space wasted by the spiral staircase would be put to use when another staircase was constructed, and the library would have not only more space, but space that would be suited to its needs.

Circulation records indicate the heavy use the public was making of the resources; even though there were only 70 compact discs in the library's collection, they went out an average of 300 times over the course of three months.⁷² By October of 1986, the book circulation had also recovered from the slump thought to have been caused by the lack of new books, and summer circulation showed an increase of 10,000 volumes signed out over the rate of the previous year. The problem of increased use, restricted funding and deteriorating equipment forced the library to make some difficult decisions. The Books-on-Wheels service was threatened by the space restrictions at the FPL, as the YRL was proposing to transfer their collection of "talking books" out of the building — there simply was no more space to store anything other than the bare necessities! Although Books-on-Wheels had been run by a variety of volunteers (who, incidentally, did much more than deliver books — some of the people served by these volunteers became dear friends over the

years), the YRL decided to roll the programme in with the bookmobile service to save both space and cost.⁷³

The City Council generously included half the proposed cost of the expansion in the 1988 budget, allowing the FPL to defray some of the costs of planning the addition. With the funds, the FPL purchased desperately-needed equipment such as a microfilm reader/printer (the library had more than 900 rolls of microfilm, and the 15-year-old reader required constant servicing, making it virtually useless) and some small computers for word processing.⁷⁴ Automation was envisioned as the remedy which would hoist New Brunswick libraries out of "the pioneer stage in which they now exist."⁷⁵ Regional Librarian Katherine LeButt warned that, without modern standards and equipment, "libraries are in a precarious position as the public purse shrinks."

Despite the financial squeeze, the FPL Board strongly emphasized the need for a complete renovation project, "not a piecemeal one that would leave the library with only part of its development completed."⁷⁶ Drawings of the proposed expansion were prepared to submit to the Military Compound Board (MCB) for approval and a letter sent to the Honourable Minister R. Beaulieu, who was "urged to proceed with all due haste" regarding the library expansion. The FPL Board formed a committee, chaired by Mardi Cockburn, to keep a close eye on the details of the expansion. Everything, for once, seemed to be going smoothly. With all the funding approved and the plans outlined in detail, Jon Oliver Design Collaborative Ltd., the architect, estimated that construction could begin after 35 weeks of planning, design and arranging for tenders to be received.

The FPL Board was, therefore, unpleasantly surprised to be informed that the Military Compound Board had refused to approve the plans for the expansion. Members of the MCB argued that, since they had not originally approved a bigger building for the library, they were not about to be pressured into doing so now. They also argued that the loss of the parking lot would create a great deal of inconvenience for those who worked in the buildings located in the Military Compound area. This unforeseen delay held up all the other facets of the expansion; provincial approval for the project had arrived in May 1988, and City Council had formally authorized the FPL Board "to proceed with every aspect of the design."

The decision of the MCB to oppose the expansion was viewed by the FPL Board as high-handed and arbitrary. While the MCB did not question the fact that the FPL clearly needed room to expand, they did question the need for public meeting rooms, and demanded a substantial reduction of the plan to ensure that the resulting building would fit in with the surrounding area. After lengthy negotiations, a compromise plan of 10,000 square feet was approved by the MCB after a delay of more than a year. The FPL Board could not heave a sigh of relief just yet, however. Another delay resulted when the provincial archaeologist expressed an interest in the site of the proposed expansion. As the home of a former military barracks, the soil under the asphalt parking lot was of considerable historical interest.

While the addition might have been moving slowly, business inside the library structure was quite lively in comparison. Compact discs, now numbering more than



Mardî Cockburn, Chairman of the Fredericton Public Library Expansion Committee

500, were circulating at 1200 per month. Librarians noticed that there was a slight decrease in the book circulation, but thought that the two events were probably unrelated. The new video tape collection was receiving rave reviews; the FPL decided to concentrate on developing an educational rather than a commercial collection, and this was shelved with the books rather than with the music, in a vain attempt to lighten the load on the music library staff.⁷⁷

All provincial buildings became non-smoking in April of 1989. This posed a rather unique problem for the FPL Board, as the building was municipally-owned and therefore was not affected by the regulation, but the staff, hired by the provincial government, would be. The FPL Board decided to comply with the provincial regulations, and made the building non-smoking since "everybody at present working in the building has either quit or is trying to quit."

The development of school libraries in New Brunswick lagged far behind that of other provinces. Most school libraries had very limited collections, and were rarely used by students or teachers, leaving public libraries to bear most of the burden of stocking curriculum-supportive resources. Despite appeals to the Department of

Education, the term-paper crunch was borne by FPL staff, who were inundated with requests from students and parents for materials.⁷⁸

By March of 1989, the expansion had been in the planning stage for two years, and the funds originally allocated for the project were no longer sufficient to cover the costs of construction. The FPL Board was forced to consider looking for outside funding for the meeting rooms, which were to be a central feature of the new library's role as a community centre.⁷⁹ The proposed changes to the building included moving several departments around. The regional library offices would occupy the new space created by the addition, while the children's department would move into space vacated by the regional library. The music department, given its popularity, would be located near the front entrance on the main floor. The staircase was to be replaced to make more efficient use of the space. The new meeting rooms would be located along the Carleton Street wall, and planned wiring would attempt to anticipate future technology, such as computerized reference and circulation desks.⁸⁰

Tenders finally opened on 27 April 1989, and the FPL Board faced another problem when a looming municipal election threatened to further delay the process.⁸¹ By mid-1989, the 10,000 square foot addition was scheduled to be completed by early 1990. Site restrictions imposed by the city and the MCB reduced the proposed floor space by almost half, but City Council agreed to fund the entire cost of the expansion. Costs ran 50 per cent over original estimates. The proposal by this time was three years old, and inflation and rising construction costs, rather than

any changes in plans, caused the increase. Furniture and equipment were not included in the municipal grant for the building, and the FPL Board decided to defer these expenses to their 1990 budget. The deferral would leave the library looking rather bare for the first few months after the renovation, but budgetary restraint had to be respected. Anticipating the completion of the project, the FPL Board decided to consult an interior decorator, stating that a "project of this size should be properly finished."⁸²

More financial crises occurred over the summer; illness left the library short-staffed for several weeks, forcing basic maintenance to be neglected in the rush to meet public demand. After reviewing the budget allocated for the addition, the Board realized that there would not be enough funds to build the meeting rooms along the Carleton Street wall. As a last resort, the FPL Board Members decided to formally approach the Beaverbrook Foundation, in the hope that the Foundation would cover the costs of the proposed meeting rooms.⁸³

Craig Schneider, a Frederickton clay artist, presented a proposal for a wall mural which included the concept of children decorating brick tiles. The finished mural reflects the importance of children and the valuable role the library can play in their development.⁸⁴

On September 18, 1989, Mardi Cockburn received a letter from Don A. Boyd of L.E. Shaw Ltd. offering a gift of \$2,500 and "River Bend," a brick relief carving by Craig Schneider, to the Frederickton Public Library. The carving is part of the wall behind the circulation desk near the main entrance.

Construction had begun on the addition in the early

summer, headed by Simpson Construction of Frederickton, and new costs were added to the plan as the structural engineer pointed out some limitations of the original design. City Council was dismayed by the inflated prices, and the library's operating budget was hastily revised to allow funds to be diverted to expansion. The bookmobile became the entire responsibility of the Regional library, and the estimated costs of \$60,000 for shelving and \$40,000 for furniture and equipment were deferred to the next fiscal year. By October, construction was on schedule, and the addition was ready to be painted. City Librarian Bill Molesworth outlined a reshelving schedule, trying to arrange the move so that the library's considerable collection would be moved as few times as possible. The board planned to close the library from the 10th of November to the 2nd of January to allow the departments to be moved to their new locations.⁸⁵

In early November 1989, when the library closed as planned for eight weeks, a huge signing-out rush occurred as patrons secured reading material to tide them over the drought. Record setting sign-outs occurred just before closing; more than 2,000 books, and 350 compact discs and tapes per day were signed out by Fredericktonians. Class visits and library tours continued right up to the closing of the library. Job creation employees filled a needed gap, as staff coped with both disruption and a greatly increased workload.⁸⁶

Another tussle between the FPL Board and the YRL Board occurred over the issue of reserving video tapes held in the new collection. Since the collection was shelved in Frederickton, the Regional Library had restricted

the ability to reserve tapes to patrons of branch libraries. This often meant that high-demand items were never on the shelf in Frederickton, and as patrons of the FPL could not secure items by reservation, they were forced to wait until the items were returned. A protest was filed with the YRL, and the matter was quickly resolved.⁸⁷

In mid-November, the internal wall which had separated the extension from the original portions of the building was demolished, and the minutes reveal that the process was noisy, dirty, and extremely disruptive. FPL staff soldiered through the dust and grime, toting stacks of books from one section to another. The proposed meeting rooms were also cause for concern, even though the funds to build them had not yet been secured. The fact that the meeting rooms were in fact city property meant that any fee charged for their use might have to be returned to the city as rent. The scarcity of pleasant, inexpensive public space in Frederickton meant that the rooms would be in high demand, and the library staff did not look forward to the problem of trying to sort out the bonafide non-profit groups from those just seeking free space. If the rooms were open in the evening, beyond the hours that the FPL was open, additional security would be an ongoing expense that the library would have to bear. Some members felt the charging a fee sufficient to cover the salary of a commissionaire would not be considered rent — other were not so sure.⁸⁸ In any event, without funds to build the rooms, the issue seemed somewhat academic.

In December, in the midst of the dust and noise of the renovation, the FPL received an early Christmas present — \$50,000 had been donated to the FPL from the

Beaverbrook Foundation over two years, with the funds earmarked to go toward the renovation.⁸⁹ The grant gave the library much-needed flexibility in planning the remainder of the renovation. Carpet and trim were finally installed in the YRL portion of renovation, and the collection had to be moved from the old section to the new one, to allow the older part of the library to receive its own facelift.⁹⁰ The reservations of the MCB about the difficulty of procuring sufficient parking space were alleviated with the change of 100 meters near the library from 8-hour meters to 2-hour meters.

The comment in the annual report of 1989 seems to sum up the feelings of library staff: "It was a horrendous year for staff as they struggled to maintain services in the midst of major disruption." After the dust settled, York Regional Library's warehouse-like space, with its high ceilings, exposed supports and duct-work, was an unpleasant surprise to the staff, who had been expecting a more finished interior. Still, however rough its appearance, the new space was badly needed and quickly filled with books. A suspended ceiling and other finishing touches resolved most of the concerns.

The FPL officially re-opened right on schedule on 8 January 1990, and faced another rush as the books signed out in November were returned. In three days staff processed the equivalent of a month's circulation!

The new meeting rooms provided needed space for community activities, expanding the library's ability to serve its function as the heart of the Frederickton community. The adult programme was finally allowed to expand, and was kicked off with an extravagant dinner party.

"Dining Out On Culture" invited gourmet palates to a progressive dinner party hosted by the six buildings which share the Military Compound. The expanded video tape collection now included National Film Board productions, and proved to be one of the most popular services of the library. Circulation was such that all of the collection was signed out constantly, with waiting lists approaching those of the French language tapes in the Music department.

The biggest change was noticed in the children's department, which now shared an entrance with the main library and was located at the rear of the building, away from the glare of the glass enclosure, with a sound barrier between it and the adult department. The loss of the spiral staircase was apparently regretted only by the four-year-olds, and the librarians who had dashed up and down it several times a day were glad to see its demise. Students from Priestman Street, Garden Creek, Marysville and Park Street schools had decorated Craig Schneider's clay tiles, and the result was an impressive mural inside the north entrance to the library. Due to the shared entrance, the children's library was now open the same hours as the adult library, and more staff were required to work the extra hours. The Music Department, located beside the front entrance, added several listening stations, and some of the staff joked about needing sunglasses in their new location.

In February, after "a month of teething problems"⁹¹ the new space appeared to be working well. Circulation was now centralized through one desk, and was running smoothly. With the reference librarian located on different floor entirely, away from circulation, the main duties

of handling inquiries and cataloguing the collection were handled much more efficiently. The office of the children's librarian, in contrast, was located where the librarian could use the office and still supervise the floor area. Much concern was caused by the new library's rather bare interior, and the board was quick to consult with the city purchasing officer about furniture for the new section, and replacements for worn furniture in other departments.

Library business continued unabated, as if the eight week hiatus had never occurred. In the first month after the renovation, the Board was once again reviewing library service, seeking improvement. Concern was expressed that the current collection did not address the needs of the local business community, and as a result, *Forbes*, *Canadian Small Business*, and *The Wall Street Journal* were added to the list of serials offered by the library. The need for an on-line reference system to link the FPL with national and international academic and business databases and the University of New Brunswick's Phoenix system was clearly demonstrated by the use of the library as a research resource by Frederictonians. The newest compact disc resource technology was something the library seriously considered, depending on the budget, to maintain the research facilities of the library. Circulation in all departments continued to increase — a rather amazing feat, given the fact that circulation was down on average in most other New Brunswick libraries. Given the interest of the community in its library, Mayor Woodside suggested offering a book prize through the library. The object would be to recognize a recently published book about a local or regional subject. The local media would

donate funds, and the award would be managed by the City.⁹² The meeting rooms, given their convenient location in the heart of the city, and the fact that their use was free to non-profit groups, were put to use immediately. In one week, the rooms were used by an animal protection group, an extension services class, and the Trails Coalition, and by StoryFest, when 75 children attended readings by well-known authors.⁹³

In March, the initial rush seemed to slow somewhat. Circulation dropped to more normal levels, and some difficulties with the new doors caused a fair amount of confusion. The doors initially wouldn't lock, and once a way was found to secure them, they wouldn't unlock! The solution was to completely replace the lock system in the doors. Books were stacked in all sorts of unlikely places, awaiting the arrival of the new shelving, but given the fact that library staff were having difficulty simply keeping up with the pressing demands of offering service to the public, the shelving was delayed, in the hopes that its arrival would coincide with the hiring of a few sturdy summer students.⁹⁴

The library continued to be full of people, not all of whom were there to borrow a book. "Those deprived of service, those intrigued by the publicity, and those who just wanted to see what had been done to the building have all been through the facility." In addition to local curiosity about the building, staff found that the use of the meeting rooms by local groups was attracting new patrons, drawing in people who had not been to the library before. The formal opening of the new section of the building was scheduled for the 23rd of May, 1990, with



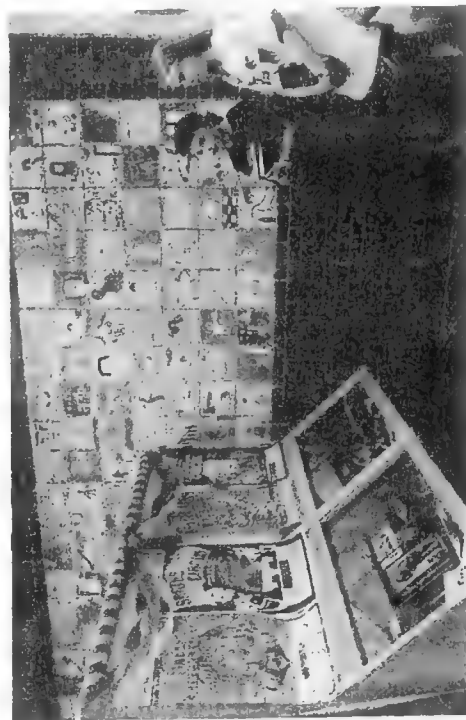
Lady Aitken and Mayor Woodside in attendance. By the 16th of May, the advertisements inviting the public were out, the arrangements for catering, a jazzband and balloons were completed, and the event promised to be properly festive. In conjunction with the official opening, the site directors of the MCB organized a series of Friday Evening Promenades, with each building putting on a display of art, culture or music. For its part, the library presented one evening of music and another of readings⁹⁵ by local authors.

By the summer, both the furniture and the shelving had arrived, making a huge difference to the appearance of the library. Although circulation was doing its annual retreat, as people went off on holiday or spent more time in outdoor pursuits, co-operation with local literacy groups drew in another group of people who hadn't used the library very much, and made them aware of some of the resources that were available to them.⁹⁶ The Board, meanwhile, had to contend

Lady Violet Aitken, chancellor of the University of New Brunswick snips a ribbon to mark the official opening of the new expansion of the Fredericton Public Library. Left to right: Mardi Cockburn, Mayor Brad Woodside, Lady Violet Aitken, and Lorna DeLong, Chair of the York Regional Library Board. DAILY GLEANER



Marcia Saunders, a staff member, at the circulation desk checking out materials. B. THOMPSON



Tile wall in the childrens section of the Frederickton Public Library by Craig Schneider. B. THOMPSON

with the problem of groups who were definitely not non-profit using the meeting rooms. They found that groups purporting to be non-profit were occasionally anything but — one enterprising individual was conducting makeup demonstrations in one room, and a group of employees who had formed an investment club was meeting in another!⁹⁷ More stringent regulations were put in place to ensure that the rooms would be accessible to those groups who needed them the most.

By the time school started again in the fall, and the library prepared for a new busy season, the library had almost returned to normal. Over the course of the summer, anything that could go wrong in the new sections of the library had, resulting in almost weekly repairs to the baseboard heating system, the new and old shelving, and the cupboards. A flurry of painting and repairs resulted in a building that was almost completely restored, even in sections that hadn't been part of the renovation! The new furniture was all in place at last, and the collection was completely reshelfed for the fourth or fifth time since the construction began. Bill Molesworth recorded that "it is such a relief to be able to put books away on shelves that have some space that the staff did not begrudge the job."⁹⁸

The fall programme kicked off with special programmes in the children's department; puppet shows were put on on Friday afternoon, and the children's reading club created crafts related to books featured each week, like cardboard snakes and sock puppets. The YMCA brought their playground group in for regular visits, and the by-now traditional Saturday story hours were reinstated in September. Toddler and pre-school activities

were planned during the week, and were a source of great pleasure (and no doubt relief) to parents of very young children. The usual class visits and kindergarten orientation reacquainted students with the resources of the library.

While the problems of too much demand and too few resources seemed destined to haunt the FPL for its entire existence, new and creative solutions were being sought by the library. The problem of acquiring books for the collection was partly solved through an agreement between YRL and the McNaughton book company, giving the library the opportunity to rent a monthly selection of bestsellers, with an option to buy those which the public found of permanent interest. In October, as the worsening weather drew more people into the library, the librarian noted that books on do-it-yourself projects were gaining in popularity. Through the library, patrons were teaching themselves everything from the rudiments of building bird-houses to the finer points of running the home computer. Students involved in more formal education also benefited from the library; groups from the Atlantic Business College, the Craft College, the Community College and the High School all applied to have students taken through on orientation tours.⁹⁹ The tours were highly successful, and students seeking to do serious research at the library have always found ready assistance there.

On the initiative of Lynne Swanick, the Friends of the Frederickton Public Library were formally incorporated on November 6, 1992. Their mission statement is as follows: to promote and support the continuation and enhancement of the services provided by the Frederickton Public Library.



Frederickton Public Library getting hooked up to the Information Highway. Seated: Kirby Keyser from UNB Computing Services, standing left to right: Steve Banks of NB Tel, Bill Molesworth the City Librarian, Councillor Tom Jellinek and Lynne Swanick the Chair of the Frederickton Public Library Board. ROBERT WILSON, DAILY GLEANER

They received their charitable tax number in May 1993. Their goals are: to act as an advocate in support of library operations; to assist in the continuation and enhancement of existing services; to encourage the implementation of new or expanded services; to raise funds to enhance library services.

The Library, in cooperation with the City of Frederickton and the National Library, purchased two Kurzweil machines to assist the visually impaired in reading books.¹⁰⁰ On February 7, 1994, the CNIB and the FPL held a ceremony at the library for the official launching of the Kurzweil, a plaque was presented to the FPL from CNIB for its part in helping the visually impaired to improve their lifestyle.

Another new development in the FPL service is the pilot project to provide access to Internet at no charge. Through the partnership between NBTel and the Frederickton Public Library, access to the "information highway"¹⁰¹ was offered during the spring and summer of 1994.



The Friends of the Public Library donating a book collection encompassing 200 titles. Left to right: friend and former chairman FPLB Hayden Leaman, chairman Robert Scammell and volunteer Charlotte VanDine.

ROB BLANCHARD, DAILY GLEANER

more complex endeavour, the FPL board has sought to ensure that the best possible library service is available to serve the citizens of Fredericton. While this has occasionally put them in conflict with the YRL board, these incidents were marks of the growing maturity of the FPL. Certainly the problems of limited public funds coupled with enthusiastic public use has been a persistent theme characterizing the development of the library.

As the FPL developed from the small collection of books organized by Hope Jarvis into a highly technical resource centre with multiple programmes, meeting a wide variety of community needs, it has never lost sight of its role as a community centre. With strong support from the public it has served so well, the library will undoubtedly continue to meet public expectations, and serve as the heart of the community.

Afterword

TIM RICHARDSON - Grandson of Alden Clark

IF EVER THE FREDERICTON Public Library had a true friend, it was Alden Clark. From his decade-long fight to establish the first public library in the city, to his death in 1994, Alden Richardson Clark was dedicated to the importance of a thriving community library.

Clark was active in more than 60 charitable and volunteer organizations. For years, the Fredericton Public Library topped that list. He fought long and hard to establish the city's first community library, with letters to the editor as his ammunition. Finally, the powers-that-be at Fredericton City Hall took Clark up on his offer, and his vision became a reality in 1954.

Alden Clark was a founding member of the board at Fredericton Public Library. He realized the growing city needed a dedicated group to direct the future of its latest jewel — a new library. He inherited his community values from his father, W.G. Clark, who donated space for the city's library in the original John Thurston Clark Memorial Building, named after a son who died after the First World War.

Clark's work on the board continued into the 1960s, when the Fredericton Public Library took up quarters in the Old Customs House. It also came to be named after his late brother, John Thurston Clark. Clark served as treasurer on the board at a time when funding was not always plentiful.

Clark's dedication to the library was evident, especially in times of hardship. When fire struck the library in 1970, Clark cleared space in the building which housed the family automobile business, to make room for books that would otherwise have been lost.

In 1973, Clark helped to convince his own Brunswick Street Baptist Church to make temporary space available for the library in the former York Street School building, which the church owned.

When the suggestion was made to relocate the library to City Hall, it was Clark who spoke up. The City was contemplating a new municipal building, but Clark called the idea "ridiculous" since the City was in a dire financial situation.

When the Fredericton Public Library moved to its current Carleton Street location, Clark followed the transition with great interest, adding his input on design details to whomever would listen. He did not want the street facade to be marred by the City's plans for a bus shelter nearby. He preferred that passers-by had an unobstructed view of the new building.

Clark cared little about politics, though he always seemed to have some indirect involvement. His headstrong views often did not sit well with those in power, but his ideas were usually shared by the citizens of Frederic-

ton. He believed residents would support a public library. And they did, making it one of the busiest, per capita, in all of Canada.

As the Fredericton Public Library continued to grow, Clark watched with amazement and pleasure. He was proud of his city, and residents recognized his contributions.

Alden Clark long believed the Fredericton Public Library was a necessary community resource. It was a place for children and adults; a place for education and entertainment. Many shared his vision and provided support in realizing that vision.

The library has become much more than the one room with just a few hundred books. It has grown into a centre for learning, culture, lectures, movies and music.

Alden Clark would be proud.

Notes

1. Shares were offered for sale in the *New Brunswick Royal Gazette* for several months in 1816. The library was moved to the National School in 1825, where a teacher served as librarian. Another subscription library was known to have existed in Fredericton from 1825 to 1830. The catalogue of this Fredericton Union Library still exists. Violet L. Coughlin, *Larger Units of Public Library Service in Canada* (New Jersey, 1968), 212, 214.
2. "Historical Society Says Bequest to It Used for Library," F.S. Mundle, vice-president of the York Sunbury Historical Society, quoted in the *Daily Gleaner*, 22 September 1955.
3. Linda Squiers Hansen, "UNB Library Nears 200 Years," *Canadian Library Journal*, 38 (December 1981): 413-15.
4. Coughlin, *Larger Units*, 214.
5. *150 Years: The Development of the New Brunswick Legislative Library, 1841-1991* (Fredericton, 1991), 31, 35.
6. *Ibid.*, 62.
7. Coughlin, *Larger Units*, 218.
8. *Ibid.*, 216.

9. *Ibid.*, 222. The Act became law 25 March 1929.
10. *Ibid.*, 225.
11. *Ibid.*, 239.
12. *Ibid.*, 230.
13. Some of these letters are preserved in the Fredericton Public Library Scrapbooks. The debate almost got out of hand when Mr. Mundle approached W.G. Clark's widow, pressuring her to allocate more space in the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building to the York-Sunbury Historical Society. Alden Clark's anger over these tactics provoked a half-page letter in the *Daily Gleaner*, spelling out his and his family's resolve to create space for a public library.
14. Interview, Katherine LeButt, April 1992.
15. Coughlin, *Larger Units*, 239.
16. *Ibid.*, 240.
17. *Ibid.*, 239.
18. *150 Years*, 37.
19. York Regional Library, Scrapbook, 1954.
20. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1955.
21. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1955-6.
22. *Ibid.*
23. *Ibid.*
24. Coughlin, *Larger Units*, 234.
25. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1955.
26. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1956.
27. Interview, Katherine LeButt, April 1992.
28. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1956.

29. Mrs. Aida Flemming donated 26 French language children's books, and local associations and families made regular donations of books and periodicals. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1958.
30. Interview, Katherine LeButt, April 1992.
31. "For true economical operations and service, we should be operating on a larger basis, or within a regional system." Stated by Hope Jarvis at the annual meeting. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1956.
32. Coughlin, *Larger Units*, 241.
33. *Ibid.*, 244.
34. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1958.
35. *Ibid.*
36. Fredericton Public Library, Scrapbooks, 1960.
37. York Regional Library and the Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1960.
38. Interview, Katherine LeButt, April 1992.
39. Interview, Katherine LeButt, April 1992.
40. Fredericton Public Library, Scrapbooks, 1960.
41. This figure includes circulation for both the Public Library and the Bookmobile as the two libraries were operated by a single board from 1958 to 1968.
42. *Daily Gleaner* — "Library gives help to classrooms," St. Dunstan's school children visit library. Article is located in the FPL Scrapbooks.
43. Fredericton Public Library and the York Regional Library, *Annual Report*, 1965.
44. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1969.
45. York Regional Library, *Annual Report*, 1970.

46. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1970.
47. Ruling of the Provincial Library Council, Rule 70-1, May 1970.
48. FPLB budget requests for 1969 included new wooden shelves, an improved entrance for the children's library, a salaried full-time janitor ("preferably a woman"), a sink and storeroom for the new janitor, a washroom to be constructed on the first floor of the building, an external bin for garbage, and a bicycle rack for the children's department. Statistics regarding the growth of the collection, circulation, and library activities were no longer recorded in the FPL minutes.
49. Donald Gammon voiced several concerns, worrying that a regionally-controlled system would weaken the level of service at the downtown library, and advocating a more active role for the FPL board. The tension between the YRL and its busiest branch would not be alleviated by a mere shuffle of board members.
50. Interview, Katherine LeButt, April 1992.
51. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1972.
52. Fredericton Public Library Board (FPLB), minutes, 10 March 1972. The French books would later form the nucleus for a branch library (named after Dr. Marguerite Michaud) located at Ecole Ste Anne, which would exclusively serve the city's growing francophone population.
53. *Daily Gleaner*, November 1973. Clipping found in the FPL Scrapbooks.
54. *Daily Gleaner*, November 1973. Clipping found in the FPL Scrapbooks.
55. York Regional Library, *Annual Report*, 1981.

56. FPLB minutes, 18 June 1986.
57. The library hired several people to load patron files into the computer using federal funds made available to hire data entry people. FPLB minutes, 21 May 1986.
58. FPLB minutes, 21 May 1986.
59. FPLB minutes, 15 February 1989.
60. This idea was based on the success of similar groups in the Ottawa area in arousing local support for library development.
61. Minutes of regular meeting of Fredericton City Council, July 27, 1987.
62. FPLB minutes, 19 February 1986.
63. FPLB minutes, 16 April 1986.
64. FPLB minutes, 18 June 1986.
65. FPLB minutes, 15 October 1986.
66. FPLB minutes, 20 October 1987.
67. FPLB minutes, 20 October 1987.
68. FPLB minutes, 19 April 1989.
69. FPLB minutes, 19 September 1990.
70. Fredericton Public Library, *Annual Report*, 1987.
71. Ibid.
72. FPLB minutes, 19 February 1986.
73. FPLB minutes, 29 September 1987.
74. FPLB minutes, 20 January 1988.
75. York Regional Library, *Annual Report*, 1987.
76. FPLB minutes, 17 June 1987.
77. FPLB minutes, 18 January 1989.
78. FPLB minutes, 15 March 1989.
79. FPLB minutes, 15 March 1989.
80. FPLB minutes, 15 February 1989.
81. FPLB minutes, 19 April 1989.
82. FPLB minutes, 17 May 1989.
83. FPLB minutes, 14 June 1989.
84. FPLB minutes, 6 September 1989.
85. FPLB minutes, 18 October 1989.
86. FPLB report to YRL *Annual Report*, 1989.
87. FPLB minutes, 15 November 1989.
88. FPLB minutes, 15 November 1989.
89. FPLB minutes, 13 December 1989.
90. FPLB report to YRL *Annual Report*, 1989.
91. Librarian's Report to the YRL, February 1990.
92. FPLB minutes, 15 January 1990.
93. Librarian's Report to the YRL, February 1990.
94. Librarian's Report to the YRL, March 1990.
95. FPLB minutes, 16 May 1990.
96. FPLB minutes, 20 June 1990.
97. FPLB minutes, 19 September 1990.
98. Librarian's Report to the YRL, September 1990.
99. Librarian's Report to the YRL, October 1990.
100. FPLB minutes, 19 January 1994.
101. FPLB minutes, 16 June 1994.

Appendix

FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY CITY LIBRARIANS

Hope Jarvis	1955 - Aug.31, 1966
Katherine LeButt	
(Regional Librarian - Acting City Librarian)	
Mary Morrison (Mayo)	July 1969 - *
Michelle C. Audet	Oct. 1972 - Dec. 1976
Tim Mark	Nov. 1977 - Dec. 1980
Allison Fitzgerald	June 1981 - Nov.26, 1983
William Molesworth	Jan. 17 1984 to present

*YRL has a copy of the press release announcing Mary Morrison's appointment as Fredericton Librarian in July of 1969. She assumed the duties of Reference Librarian in 1972 and became Children's Librarian in 1976 to present. Mrs. LeButt covered as City Librarian in the interim.

FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARDS

1955

Mrs. Marjorie Thompson - chair	Mr. G.B. Mackenzie
Mrs. Nelson Adams	Mrs. Ben Medjuck
Mrs. C.W. Argue	Mr. E.T. Moran
Mr. Alden R. Clark	Ald. Walter Wittingham
Mrs. Hugh John Flemming	His Worship Mayor
	H.S. Wright (ex officio)

1956 - 1958

Mrs. Marjorie Thompson - chair	Mrs. Hugh John Flemming
Mrs. Nelson Adams	Mr. G.B. Mackenzie
Mrs. C.W. Argue	Mrs. Ben Medjuck
Mr. C. Frederick Boyle	Ald. Walter Wittingham
Mr. Alden R. Clark	His Worship Mayor
	H.S. Wright (ex officio)

1958 - 1968

- Operated under the auspices of the York Regional Library Board.

1969

Mr. Donald Gammon - chair	Mr. Harvey Malmberg
Mrs. Jean Adams	Miss Mary Morrison - secretary
Mr. J.W. "Bud" Bird	
Mrs. Ralph Dingee	Councillor Nellie Winters

1970

Mr. Donald Gammon – chair
 Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 chair (resigns June 1970)
 Miss Mary Morrison – secretary
 Dr. William Collins
 Miss Nellie Winters
 Mr. Sandy DiGiacinto
 Mrs. Ralph Dingee

1971

Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 – chair *
 Mrs. Richard L. Carr *
 Dr. William B. Collins
 Mr. Sandy DiGiacinto
 Mrs. Ralph Dingee
 Mr. Hayden Leaman
 Miss Mary Morrison – secretary
 Mrs. John Paterson
 Mrs. Dennis Whittaker *
 Miss Nellie Winters

1972

Mr. Harvey Malmberg – chair *
 Mr. Harold Hatheway
 Miss Michelle Audet – secretary
 Mrs. Richard Carr
 Dr. William B. Collins
 Councillor Sandy DiGiacinto
 Mr. Hayden Leaman
 Mrs. John Paterson
 Mrs. Elizabeth Patterson
 Mrs. Dennis Whittaker *
 Miss Nellie Winters

1973

Mr. Harvey Malmberg – chair
 Mr. Dale Horncastle
 Councillor Sandy DiGiacinto
 Mrs. Dawn Pollard
 Mr. Garfield Dykeman
 Mr. Glenn Scott
 Dr. Daniel Gleason
 Mrs. T.A. Smith

* = representative on YRL board

1974

Mr. Garfield Dykeman – chair
 Dr. Daniel Gleason
 Miss Michelle Audet – secretary
 Mr. Dale Horncastle
 Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 Mrs. Dawn Pollard
 Mrs. Patricia Carr
 Councillor Sandy DiGiacinto
 Mr. Glenn Scott
 Mrs. Thomas A. Smith

1975

Mr. Garfield Dykeman – chair
 Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 Miss Michelle Audet – secretary
 Mrs. Dawn Pollard
 Mrs. Glenn Scott
 Mrs. Patricia Carr
 Mrs. Thomas A. Smith
 Dr. Daniel Gleason
 Deputy Mayor Nellie Winters
 Mr. Dale Horncastle

1976

Mr. Garfield Dykeman – chair
 Mr. Hayden Leaman
 Miss Michelle Audet – secretary
 Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 Mrs. Bertha Miller
 Mrs. Patricia Carr
 Mrs. Thomas A. Smith
 Mr. Sandy DiGiacinto
 Deputy Mayor Nellie Winters
 Dr. Daniel Gleason

1977

Mr. Hayden Leaman – chair
 Miss Elizabeth MacDonald – acting secretary
 Mrs. Patricia Carr
 Mr. David MacMillan
 Mrs. Richard Clark
 Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 Mr. Sandy DiGiacinto
 Mrs. Bertha Miller

Dr. Daniel Gleason Councillor Nellie Winters

1978

Mr. Hayden Leaman – chair Mr. David MacMillan
Mrs. Patricia Carr Mr. Harvey Malmberg
Mrs. Richard Clark Mr. Tim Mark – secretary
Mr. Sandy DiGiacinto Mrs. Bertha Miller
Dr. Daniel Gleason Councillor Nellie Winters

1979

Mr. Hayden Leaman – chair Mr. Harvey Malmberg
Mr. Yvon Boudreau Mr. Tim Mark – secretary
Mrs. Patricia Carr Mrs. Bertha Miller
Mrs. Richard Clark Mrs. Garnet Peteson
Mr. Sandy DiGiacinto Councillor Nellie Winters

1980

Mrs. Bertha Miller – chair Mr. Harvey Malmberg
Mr. Yvon Boudreau Mr. Tim Mark – secretary
Mrs. Patricia Carr Mrs. Joan Trainor
Mrs. Robert DeWirt Councillor Sheila Washburn
Mrs. Brigid Grant Miss Nellie Winters

1981

Mrs. Patricia Carr – chair Mrs. Bertha Miller
Mr. John Creaser Mr. Sidney Styant
Mrs. Brigid Grant Dr. A. Roy Mackenzie
Mr. Harvey Malmberg Councillor Sheila Washburn
Mr. Tim Mark – secretary Miss Nellie Winters

1982 - 1983

Mrs. Patricia Carr Ms. Brigid Grant
Mr. John Creaser Dr. A. Roy Mackenzie
Councillor Marilyn Davidson Mr. Harvey Malmberg
Ms. Alison Fitzgerald – Mrs. Bertha Miller
secretary Mr. Sidney Styant
Ms. Shirley Giffin

1983 - 1984

Mr. K. McNaughton – chair Ms. Shirley Giffin
Mrs. Patricia Carr Ms. Brigid Grant
Mrs. Mardi Cockburn Dr. A. Roy Mackenzie
Councillor Marilyn Davidson Mr. Harvey Malmberg
Ms. Alison Fitzgerald – Mrs. Bertha Miller
secretary

1985

Mr. K. MacNaughton – chair Mrs. Bertha Miller
Mrs. Patricia Carr Mr. Bill Molesworth –
Mrs. Mardi Cockburn secretary
Councillor Marilyn Davidson Mrs. Nancy Wolfe
Mr. David E. Ford – Alden Clark's daughter
Dr. A. Roy Mackenzie

1986

Mr. Michael Bowlin – chair Dr. A. Roy Mackenzie
Mrs. Patricia Carr Mrs. Bertha Miller
Councillor Sandy Mr. Bill Molesworth –
DiGiacinto secretary
Mr. David E. Ford Mrs. Shirley Townsend

1987

Mr. Michael Bowlin – chair Mr. Bill Molesworth –
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * secretary
 Councillor Marilyn Davidson Mr. Lloyd Smith *
 Mr. David E. Ford Mrs. Shirley Townsend
 Mrs. Kathy Haché Mrs. Nancy Wolfe
 Mr. A. Roy Mackenzie

1988

Mr. Michael Bowlin – chair Mr. Bill Molesworth –
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * secretary
 Councillor Marilyn Mr. Lloyd Smith *
 Davidson Ms. Lynne Swanick
 Mr. David E. Ford Mrs. Shirley Townsend
 Mrs. Kathy Haché Mrs. Nancy Wolfe

1989

Mr. Michael Bowlin – chair Mr. Bill Molesworth –
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * secretary
 Councillor Brenda Mr. Lloyd Smith *
 Johnston Ms. Lynne Swanick
 Mr. David E. Ford Mrs. Shirley Townsend
 Mrs. Kathy Haché Mrs. Nancy Wolfe

1990

Mr. Michael Bowlin – chair Mr. David E. Ford
 (resigned Sept. 1990) Mrs. Kathy Haché – acting
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * chair (to Feb. 1991)
 Councillor Brenda Mr. Bill Molesworth –
 Johnston secretary

Mr. Lloyd Smith * Mrs. Shirley Townsend
 Ms. Lynne Swanick Mrs. Nancy Wolfe

1991

Ms. Lynne Swanick – chair Mr. Michael O'Connor
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * Councillor Brenda
 Mrs. Kathy Haché (Johnston) Sansom
 Mr. Tom Jellinek Mr. Lloyd Smith *
 Ms. Angela McKay Mrs. Shirley Townsend
 Mr. Bill Molesworth –
 secretary

1992

Ms. Lynne Swanick – chair Councillor Tom Jellinek
 Ms. Angela McKay Mr. Bill Molesworth
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * – secretary
 Mrs. Kathy Haché Mr. Michael O'Connor
 Ms. Penny Hartin Mr. Lloyd Smith *

1993

Ms. Lynne Swanick – chair Mr. Harvey Malmberg
 Mr. Terry Bucknall Mr. Bill Molesworth –
 Mrs. Mardi Cockburn * secretary
 Ms. Penny Hartin Mr. Michael O'Connor
 Councillor Tom Jellinek Mr. Lloyd Smith *
 Dr. Donald MacQuarrie

* = representative on YRL board

1994

Ms. Lynne Swanick – chair	Mr. Bill Molesworth – secretary
Mrs. Mardi Cockburn *	Mr. Thomas Morrison
Ms. Penny Hartin	Ms. Janet Moss
Councillor Tom Jellinek	Mr. Michael O'Connor
Mr. Harvey Malmberg	Mr. Lloyd Smith *